No. 65,771

FRIDAY DECEMBER 27 1996

David Sinclair's review of the pop year **PAGE 32**



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meets Joan Plowright PAGE 15



GILES

COREN Why we hate New Year's PAGE 15



TOMORROW **JONATHAN** MEADES

Restaurants of the year in the MASATINE



'Political correctness' under fire

Adoption may be switched to private sector

By Valerie Elliott and Dominic Kennedy

ADOPTION services could be hived off to the private sector or to voluntary groups under radical plans drafted by the Prime Minister in an attempt to reduce the influence of social workers.

John Major has ordered an urgent review of adoption policy and of arrangements for the 55,000 children living in care. He is concerned that many social services departments do not offer adoption as a viable option to children nor treat applications from prospective adoptive parents

Mr Major has asked officials at Downing Street to explore every possible alternative and to examine ways of reducing the influence of social workers on adoption.

A government source said: "We must try to reduce the role of social workers. Of course they will continue to have a part to play, but in too: many cases their values are not those shared by the com-

munity in which they serve." Mr Major's aim is to create v adoption bill which wil end the climate of political correctness which has stultified adoption. The reform is expected to be included in the Conservative election

Mr Major showed his personal interest and commitment to adoption reforms when he addressed the Conservative Party conference in October. He said: "Looking a little further ahead, I still hear too many stories of politically correct absurdities that prevent children being adopted

give them a good home. If that is happening by loving couples who would happening, we should stop

Mr Major believes it is important for children to be brought up in the stability of a home rather than being institutionalised in children's homes or drifting between

various foster parents.
His views have hardened after the scandals of abuse in children's homes. A formal child care inquiry is to begin in North Wales next month and 15 police forces are investigating similar complaints.

A government source said: The Prime Minister is pushing very hard on this because he knows it is the right and sensible thing to do. He is uncomfortable with these large numbers in care and the evidence of child

A draft adoption Bill, pub lished earlier this year, attempted to iron out difficulties with international adoptions but it failed to be included in the Queen's Speech after reptrom Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, and Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary.

After the furore over the divorce law reforms from a strong moral group of the Tory right-wing, they were concerned the proposed Bill would be hijacked by a vocal minority and would create a new vehicle for dissent among Tory MPs.

They also feared it would raise complex issues about the right of homosexual and single parents to adopt and could

also prompt a new debate on

surrogacy.
One minister said last week: They did not want the sound and the fury. There was a lot of nervousness with this subject in advance of the election but I believe that post-election it could be a runner and we should involve lots more agencies and charities in adoption work. We should also remember that many local authorities do a good job to the benefit of couples and children, and that it is a minority of politically correct social workers who cause the trouble."

Mr Major accepted the ar-currents but is determined to find sensible solutions for children in care and to raise the profile of adoption even though a number of Whitehall officials are understood to be keen on the status quo.

Sir William Utting, who is conducting an official review of children's homes after the abuse scandals in North Wales, warned ministers to tread warily before handing adoption to private agencies.

The conduct of a husi as fundamental to family life as adoption is one that ought to be carried out by government and not delegated to other authorities," Sir William, formerly the Government's chief inspector of social work, told The Times. "It is certainly not something that one would wish to expose to market forces. One of the big dangers in this sector is setting up the farming of babies. That was one of the problems about

overseas adoption. "If-



The Prince of Wales cuffs Prince Harry at Sandringham yesterday, accompanied on a shoot by Prince Edward

Duke leads royal pheasant shoot

By Tim Jones and Stephen Farrell

THE DUKE of Edinburgh led three generations of the Royal Family in a Sandringham pheasant shoot yesterday. As the Queen rode elsewhere on the estate, the Duke was joined by the Prince of Wales, Prince William and Prince Harry, the Duke of York and Prince Edward on frostcovered fields at Harpley

Dams near the Peddar's Way. Captain Timothy Laurence

the shoot and the Princess Royal picked up birds and played with her daughter

Quantock and The Chiverton staghounds rode but the Beaufort was unable to hunt because of frozen ground and all meetings in Leicester-shire and Wiltshire were off.

Police reported fewer antihunt protesters than expected and no trouble. In Oxfordshire the Bicester Hunt was confronted by protesters from the League Against Cruel

As the horsemen and women drank a stirrup cup in the town's market square they faced a mobile poster depict-ing a fox which had been disembowelled by hand.

Penny Little, an executive member of the league, said she hoped it would be the last Boxing Day she had to turn out. The league believes Labour would ban foxhunting if elected: the party is already committed to banning hunting on 2.5 million acres of Forestry Commission and MoD land Elliot Morley, the party's animal welfare spokesman, confirmed yesterday that there would also be a free vote to outlaw all fox and deer hunt-

ing and hare coursing.

Letters, page 17 Photograph, page 20

BBC may end radio popularity poll after cheating

THE BBC seems set to scrap its annual Radio 4 Today Personality of the Year contest after disqualifying 4,000 votes cast for John Major, this year's winner.

The competition was plunged into controversy yet again after evidence of multiple voting for the Prime Minis-ter, who secured 23 per cent of

Earlier this month, the contest was discredited after it emerged that a Labour party worker had tried to rig the contest in favour of Tony Blair, but had failed to get him on the shortlist

A BBC spokeswoman said the future of the competition was "under review" and that if it was rerun it would be done differently. One option being floated was to disqualify all politicians from the event, although some argued that campaigners on certain issues would also try to rig the competition.

A senior BBC source said the poll was almost certain to be axed because it had caused so much controversy. "It is very unlikely that the BBC will want to go through this performance again next year,' the source said. Another insider admitted that the discovery that Labour had tried to rig the poll had sparked intense debate about whether competition should be shelved.

Voters were asked to vote for six nominees by telephone during a three hour period on December 18. However, the BBC found that many votes had been lodged repeatedly from the same telephones. About 4,000 were deemed suspect. The BBC would not give the exact figure. The spokesman refused to

say how it had detected the multiple calls, but added: "It was a very sophisticated

10% house price rise forecast

Housing market experts are predicting price rises of up to 10 per cent next year, more than three times the level of inflation. Rob Thomas, City analyst

at UBS Securities, expects a rise of 10 per cent and two of the largest mortgage lenders. Halifax and Nationwide, both forecast a 7 per cent

Snow in South after frosty night

Temperatures today in much of Britain are not expected to rise much above overnight levels of -2C (28F) to -4C (24F). A few places will stay below freezing all day. Overnight frost will lift slowly and the South will have rain and snow this morning, the Mete-orological Office said Page 20



The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



Riot police ordered in by Milosevic

THOUSANDS of riot police broke up anti-government demonstrations in Belgrade yesterday as President Milosevic continued to ignore American and West European pleas for restraint and threats of fresh economic sanctions.

The first death as a result of the five weeks of political protests against the ruling Socialist Party tampering with local election results was con-firmed yesterday. The victim died after being beaten by Milosevic supporters on Christmas Eve.

The opposition said that their campaign had now spread from the capital to more than 50 towns, and that they would return to the streets again today.

Report, page 10 Leading article, page 17

Brown gags Shadow Cabinet over Labour spending plans

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN is stopping his Shadow Cabinet colleagues from speaking out or writing on any policy that could involve spending com-mitments. A letter has been sent to them from Alistair Darling, the Shadow Chief

Secretary to the Treasury. They have also been warned that any interviews or articles written by frontbenchers will have to be sanctioned and vetted by Mr Brown or Mr Darling. No frontbencher will be able to draw up even rough draft documents unless they have been commissioned by

the Labour leadership. Frontbenchers wishing to table amendments to Bills going through the Commons must seek permission in case they hide spending pledges.

The letter, leaked to The Times, also discloses that each Shadow Cabinet member will be called to see the Treasury team in the new year "so we can be clear about your departmental commitments and priorities immediately after the election". The letter, dated December 23, also makes clear Labour will not be able to reverse all, if any. Tory spend-

ing reductions. Mr Brown is determined to pre-empt the imminent Tory campaign on Labour's tax bombshell. Senior ministers will launch a £7 million advertising campaign in the new year, claiming that Labour will raise taxes and spending. "We will be saying we can't trust the Government on taxes

There are also signs that Labour's existing commitments may have to be reviewed. Mr Darling's letter says next year's public spending settlement "will be very tight". He adds that the Red Book - the forecast of the country's spending commitments and revenue for the next three years — has already made clear that each department

finances," said a Labour

would face tough constraints. Although Labour's £3 billion programme to help the unemployed to get back to work will be sacrosanct, other pledges on nursery places, health and education spending may have to be revised.

The Queen's broadcast ratings fall

THE QUEEN's Christmas message continued its steady decline in popularity and was watched by only 11 million viewers on Christmas Day (Carol Midgley writes).

Fewer people tuned in at

3pm than at any time since 1993, according to figures. About 9.1 million viewers saw it on BBCI and 1.9 million on

The combined viewing figures for the Christmas message have been falling since 1993 when it drew 16.3 million viewers. That was down to 14.4 million in 1994 and 13.9 million in 1995.

However, the comedian Rory Bremner's alternative Christmas message broadcast at the same time and featuring him dressed up as Diana, Princess of Wales, was watched by 1.6 million people.



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Golden Raisin Different Lipstick

Aromatics Blor Body Stripother

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Paperboy saves day-old baby girl abandoned in hedge

A DAY-OLD baby abandoned under a hedge in freezing temperatures was saved after a teenage paperboy heard her cries and went to investigate. Darren Simms, 13, found the child, who

had probably lain for several hours in temperatures of -3C wrapped in just a sheet and a towel, during his Boxing Day deliveries. He then cycled home to alert his mother Margaret and father Doug. Mrs Simms, a professional child-minder from Whickham, Gateshead, washed and changed the baby while her husband called police and an ambulance "I was cycling along the road when I

suddenly heard a baby crying." Darren policewoman who helped to rescue her. said. "I stopped and looked round for a few seconds and then saw a bundle next to a fence, under a bush.

"The bundle was moving backwards and forwards. At first I panicked a bit but then I cycled home as fast as I could and and took the baby home. If I had not been doing my paper round, then I would not have found her and she could have died." The police are anxious to trace the mother, who probably gave birth on Christmas Day. She could be in need of urgent medical attention.

was in satisfactory condition in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Gateshead last Mrs Simms said: "I was panicking

when I went up for the baby because it was so cold and I felt so sorry for her. She got my mum. We came back in the car was obviously newborn because the umbilical cord was still attached. She was covered in blood and crying quite loudly. "I feel very sorry for the baby's mother

because she must have been very frightened and had no one to turn to. She panicked but I can tell from where she left the baby that she wanted her found. She The baby, who weighs 6lb 140z and has will have to go to hospital, because she been named Molly after a relative of a will need medical help after this."



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Offer available from 28 December 1996 until 11 January 1997.



Labour would try to fill

empty flats over shops

lf Labour wins the general election, it plans a campaign to

fill 100,000 empty high-street flats to combat housing

problems, revive town centres and curb late-night shop

burglaries. To encourage greater use of residential properties, landlords would lose their 50 per cent reduction

on council tax that they now receive if property is empty.

Labour would also allow housing associations grant help
to renovate and rent high-street flats fallen into disrepair.

Labour would put pressure on town planners to ensure that shopping complexes in future include private homes.

The Conservative Party has apologised to Tom Clarke, the shadow Minister for the Disabled, over untrue allegations

shadow Minister for the Disabled, over truttee allegations that he was guilty of "unAmerican" behaviour. The Tories made the claim before Tony Blair's visit to the United States last spring. They alleged that Mr Clarke was "un-American" for having attended a meeting of a group which opposed Britain's entry to the Guif War.

Shippers of champagne have recorded an increase in sales this year of about 18 per cent over 1995. Sales of vintage champagne remain only a small fraction of the total.

Sparkling wines made by the champagne method from Spain, New Zealand and Australia have all showed even higher increases in sales this year than that recorded by

Police hunt Glasgow sex attacker

Champagne sales effervescent

Tories apologise for MP slur

Government advisers look for explanation of regional exam variations

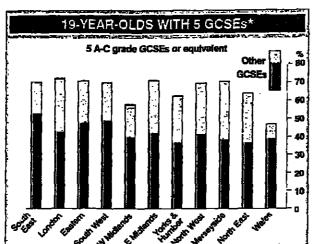
North-South divide in GCSE results

EDUCATION EDITOR

GOVERNMENT advisers are seeking explanations for a growing gap between qualifications achieved in London and in parts of the Midlands and north of England.

The quango responsible for promoting the Government's education and training targets is concerned that some regions are falling so far behind that national targets will become beyond reach. In the West Midlands, fewer than 60 per cent of 19-year-olds have the equivalent of five higher-grade GCSEs, compared with more than 70 per cent in the capital.

Although prosperity and high employment levels might explain some of the differ-ences, academics believe social attitudes are also playing a part; Merseyside, despite high levels of unemployment. runs London a close second for basic qualifications, whereas the lowest GCSE average is in Yorkshire and Humberside. The South East of England boasts the highest A-level pass



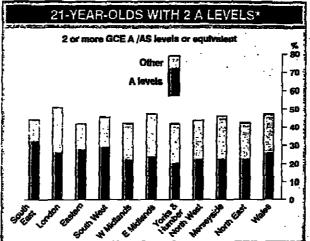
rate, but its high take-up of advanced vocational courses again puts London top of the ten English regions.

A study at the National Foundation for Educational Research is expected to produce possible explanations by Easter. But Ian Schagun, of the study team, said they were proving more complex than had been expected. If anything, there are more differences within the regions than between them, so there is no simple message to convey."

London, for example, regularly fills the top and bottom

positions in the annual league table of local authority performance at GCSE. Some outer-London authorities are already close to the Government's targets for the end of

Philip Chorley, director of



the National Advisory Council for Education and Training Targets, said: "Existing figures suggest variations as high as 14 percentage points in young people's attainment of qualifications in different

parts of the country. This study will help us to identify the reasons behind different levels of achievement, the factors affecting performance can be controlled and

the best local strategies for making real progress towards the national targets."

Training and Enterprise Councils are required to set local education and training targets. They will be sent the national foundation's report.

Despite rising pass rates in public examinations, it is becoming increasingly unlikely that the Government's targets for 2000 will be met. They

year-olds have the equivalent of five higher-grade GCSEs, compared with the present 69 per cent. By the age of 21, 60 per cent are expected to have the equivalent of two A levels. compared with the present 44

Mr Schagun said: "Particu-larly at GCSE, there are two central factors: prior attainment at primary school and social conditions. When these come together, they make quite a difference."

☐ More than 5,000 schools are suffering shortages of books or equipment which damage the quality of lessons, Labour claims today in an analysis of school inspectors' reports. Almost a quarter of secondary schools and one in eight primaries did not have enough books to teach the

curriculum satisfactorily.

The Department for Education blamed school governors for any shortages, saying the central issue was not the size of budgets but their use.

Education, page 34

method of electronic monitoring. We do not want to spell it out because if the system is used again for any reason, people will know how to avoid

"We have within the system taken into account households where more than one member of a family would be able to cast a vote and have not disqualified those votes."

Mr Major had 32,769 valid votes -23.5 per cent of the total — while Lisa Potts, the nursery nurse who protected children from a machetewielding attacker, came sec-ond, with 29,940 (21.5 per cent). Aung San Suu Kyi, the Burmese opposition leader, was third with 18 per cent of

It is not the first time the competition has hit controversy. In 1990, when listeners cast written votes, the contest was suspended after it was found that supporters of a Hindu politician had attempted to rig the result. When it was reinstated in 1994 as Personality of the Year, it was won by Roy

The BBC spokesman said: The competition is under review, as is the way it is run. We are saddened by the fact it has been the subject of abuse. It is flattering that people take it so seriously, but it is only supposed to be a bit of fun to

involve the listeners." Anne Atkins, the vicar's wife who caused controversy when she condemned church services for homosexuals, finished fourth in the poll.

election, although she has

recently been seen at her

husband's side on visits to

schools and hospitals. Labour

is keen to attract the female

vote, and feels there is a need

to counteract the positive influ-

Mrs Major already has her own "unofficial" press officer

who has helped her for the last

six months. Eileen Wise, head

of news at Conservative Cen-

tral Office, is responsible for

setting up interviews for her

and organising public appearances. She also helped Mrs

Major promote her book on

ence of Norma Major.

picture, right, of a man being hunted in connection with ten indecent assaults on lone women over the past 13 months in west Glasgow. The attacks have all occurred between 12.30am and 5am. Police say the women, aged between 19 and 28, were generally followed home and attacked as they were about to enter their homes. None

of the women needed hospi-

Detectives issued an E-fit

tal treatment in spite being deeply shocked. Man killed by hit-and-run driver

A pedestrian on his way home from a Christmas Eve party was killed instantly when he was hit by a stolen car. Mark Chippendale, 24, was flung across the carriageway by the white Ford Fiesta near his home in Mexborough, south Yorkshire. The driver did not stop and the car was later found abandoned less than two miles from the scene of the crash and set on fire.

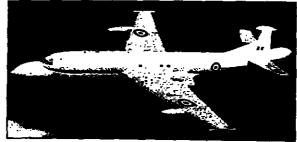
Firemen issue strike warning

Firemen are warning that they could take industrial action in the New Year as part of a campaign to protect jobs and services in the wake of local council budget cuts. The areas likely to be affected include Kent, Essen, Derbyshire, Scotland, Suffolk, Norfolk and Wales. A Fire Brigades Union spokesman said: "If there is the threat of one single redundancy, we have policies in place to deal with it."

Nurses will help smokers to quit

Nurses are to encourage their patients to give up smoking. In a campaign launched resterday, thousands of auties have been given guidelines on motivating their patients to quit. Anne Crawford, who is helping to run the campaign for the Royal College of Nursing, said: "Patients frequently turn to nurses for advice and nurses are in the ideal

RAF Nimrods are stripped down



The RAF's Nimrod submarine hunters are being stripped down at RAF Kinioss, on the Moray Coast, as part of a £2 billion modernisation project. The tails and wings are being cut off so that the fuselages can be put inside an Antonov transporter and flown to British Aerospace in Bournemouth. There, they will be transformed into

Nimrod 2000s, which are expected to enter service in 2002. Christmas card recycling scheme

A nationwide Christmas card recycling scheme has been launched by the Post Office and the Countryside Commission in an attempt to reduce the number that end up dumped in landfill sites. Post Offices will accept the cards throughout January and profits will go to a number of nature conservation groups. At present only 10 per cent of cards are recycled.

Rape accused found hanging

A remand prisoner died after being found hanging in a cell, police said last night. Paul Reilly, 44, from New Ollerton, Nottinghamshire, died at Lincoln Prison late on Christmas Eve. He was facing a rape charge and had recently been remanded by Worksop magistrates. A doctor and prison staff tried in vain to revive him.

Adoption

Continued from page I adoption is done at all, it needs to be done in the interests of the child. I am sometimes bothered by the way in which adults treat this as if they are actually entitled to adopt children really to gratify their own wishes and the child is regarded as a possession like other possessions."

Patricia Morgan, honorary fellow of the Institute of Economic Affairs, is preparing a report calling for social services to lose control over adoption. "It should have a much higher profile and be considered as a proper choice for young women and girls who get pregnant and do not want to keep the child."

She compares the success of adoption with the failure of the care system. More than 75 per cent leave care with no qualifications; only between 12 and 19 per cent go on to further education; between 50 and 80 per cent are unemployed; 23 per cent make up adult prisoners and 38 per cent of those held in young offender

institutions. The most experienced adoption judge in England says children are being denied the chance of being adopted because social workers strive to keep them with failed parents. Thomas Heald said young people were often too old and disturbed to be found adoptive homes because of the delay in accepting that their own families would never cope. "The trouble is adoption has usually

been put off for far too long. The retired circuit judge, who sanctioned 2,500 adoptions in 25 years, said many children were so keen to be adopted that they persuaded their fosterers to become their

mothers and fathers by law. Jim Richards, director of the Catholic Children's Society, an adoption agency, said: "Adopvoluntary agencies were involved to a greater extent. It is very different from the 1960s and 1970s when nurses and social workers would almost without exception tell women they were doing the right thing and were good mothers if they gave up a child for

adoption.

June Phoburn, professor of social work at East Anglia University, who has advised the Department of Health about adoption reform, said: "It can have long-term mental health problems to give up a baby for adoption. It has ally assaulted."



Out-of-town sales get off to an early start

By Jonathan Prynn

THE Christmas sales got off to an early start yesterday. Although most department stores are not launching their sales until this morning, and most city centres remained relatively quiet, the bigger out-of-town operations had an unexpected post-Christmas rush. Two thousand people were queueing outside the Ikea furniture store in Brent Park. north

CHERIE BLAIR has been

assigned her own "minder"

for the general election cam-

paign to help to arrange public

engagements and field press

Fiona Millar, the long-time

partner of Alastair Campbell,

will help Mrs Blair when she

makes public appearances or

conducts interviews. Labour

Party sources denied that Ms

Millar, who has lived with Mr

Campbell for more than ten years, would brief journalists

Cherie is not a politician.

she is not having a political

role and she doesn't need a spin-doctor," one said. "How-

ever, the general election is a

Cherie will inevitably be mak-

on policy issues.

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ing some personal appear-

ances during it and it is not unreasonable that she might

require some assistance ar-

ranging them."

Ms Millar writes political

profiles for the Commons

House magazine and used to

be a reporter for the Daily

Express. She worked for Neil

and Glenys Kinnock during

the last general election and

has already been helping Mrs

Blair for two years. Labour

are keen that Mrs Blair not be

seen in the same way as

Ms Millar and Mr Camp-

bell, a former political editor

for the Daily Mirror news-

paper, already have a close

social and professional rela-tionship with the Blairs. Party

sources refused to comment

Hillary Clinton.

London well before the shop opened at 10am. John Olie, the manager, said: "It took about an hour to get them all in." As more shoppers arrived, the store became "absolutely heaving", and Mr Olie said that with about about 3,000 people inside they closed temporarily for safety reasons. It was a similar story north of the border. In Kirkcaldy. Fife, the manager of the local branch of the Comet electrical store said the shop had

been struggling to cope with the influx of customers. There have been a lot more people than we'd normally expect. There has been a very large increase in sales on last year. It has been extremely busy," he said. In the deserted West End of London, tourists outnumbered bargain hunters. At one furniture shop on the Edgware Road, the manager was forced to sell a £900 sofa for £1 to drum up

Cherie Blair gets 'minder' for election trail



Cherie Blair and Fiona Millar, who will be on hand to help with Mrs Blair's political roles

being paid. "Any salary arrangements are a private matter." said one aide

He also denied that Ms Millar would be organising what Mrs Blair should wear,

on whether Ms Millar was but said she would be at hand to field press inquiries on leader's wife.

stories focusing on the Labour Aides also played down the idea that Mrs Blair would

Chequers.
The Tories clearly intend to give Mrs Major, who has been dubbed Mr Major's "secret weapon", a significant profile during the election campaign in what could emerge as an have a key role in the general vital battle for women voters.

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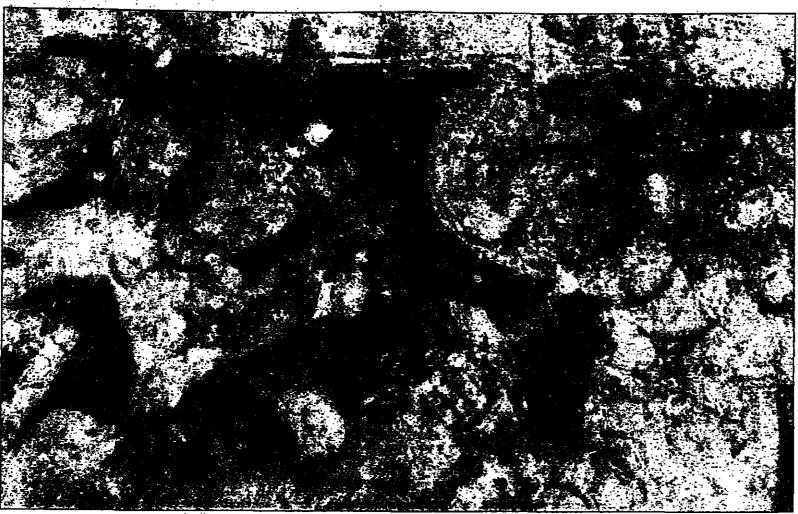
STARTS SATURDAY AT PETER JONES - Steams Square. JOHN LEWIS: OXFORD STREET, BRENT CROSS ABERDEEN, CHEADLE, EDINBURGH HIGH WYCOMBE STARTS TUESDAY AT JOHN LEWIS BPISTOL, XINGSTON, MILTON REYNES, PETERBOROUGH, WELWYN BAINBRIDGE - Newcastle, BONDS - Nerwich, CALEYS - Windsor, COLE BROTHERS - Shelf-eld, HEELAS - Reading IESSOP & SON - Hollingham

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offering the same goods at a lower price, we will reduce ours accordingly, even if

you buy, you can return it if you are not completely satisfied. The John

Scholars hail discovery of 11th-century paintings beneath layers of plaster and ivy in ruined church





The 11th-century frescoes include an angel blowing the Last Trump, left, and a saint holding a dead snake, representing the triumph of good over evil. The discoveries will rewrite art history, one expert says

Hidden frescoes give new picture of Romanesque art



The frescoes were discovered by

ARTS CORRESPONDENT

ROMANESQUE wall paintings identified as the oldest extensive church frescoes in Britain have been discovered by a retired engineer among ivy-covered

Scholars speak of being breathless. with excitement at the find and describe it as a "once-in-lifetime experience". One said: Those few who have been fortunate to see it have come back almost

The images, which include the oldest depiction of its kind of the Holy Trinity anywhere in Europe, have been found in a remote and dilapidated church in the west of Norfolk. Prophets, saints and a demon figure are among paintings that were concealed for centuries beneath medieval and 17th-century painted plaster and a wall of ivy that had engulfed the roofless building. They were painted about 1090, three years after the death of William the Conqueror.

The find was made by Bob Davey, who has lived locally since 1987, after henoticed patches of red other poking County Council. First, 17th-century biblical texts that had been painted on to the wall in black lettering on white ground were discovered, protected by the ivy for the 50 years since the church was last used. Cracks in the plasterwork, however, suggested that there was something else underneath.

The art detectives removed a section and found themselves going back to the 13th century. Again, cracks in the plaster led them to another medieval layer. That

as when they made their 1090 find. David Park, a leading medieval wall paintings scholar at the Courtauld Institute in London, said: "I was astounded when I saw these paintings for the first time." It is estimated that only half the imagery has been uncovered.

The find is all the more important because Henry VIII, the damp British climate and the Victorian penchant for stripping church interiors ensured the obliteration of colourful early Romanesque wall paintings that were once abundant in Britain.

"These are exceptionally early," said noticed patches of red other poking through the ivy at the church, reputed to revolutionise our knowledge of art from

this period, particularly in the development of subject. History books would need to be rewritten and, for this reason, the frescoes were of international importance, he said.

Stephen Rickerby, a wall paintings conservator, whose clients include the Getty Conservation Institute, said: "It is tremendously exciting. What marks it as special is that quite a lot of Romanesque paintings survive in Britain. They generally date from 1130 to 1150."

The Anglo-Saxons were known to have painted their church walls, but the only example to have survived - in a small church at Nether Wallop in Hampshire, dating from 1000 - is such a small fragment that it pales against this discovery.

Julian Hunt, of English Heritage, which is overseeing the project with the council, said: "If it were in a cathedral, that would be extraordinary enough. The fact that it's in a parish church in the middle of such an isolated spot is quite mind-boggling."
He explained that the drapery was

among stylistic features identifying it as very early Romanesque. The composiTrinity with God seated with Christ and the Holy Ghost as a dove.

Mr Park said that the representation of Christ on the Cross before an enthroned God is the earliest known depiction of an image that was to become a standard way of showing that subject throughout Europe in the Middle Ages; until this find, the earliest such composition was a northern French manuscript

Also on the east gable is a series of faces gazing up to heaven and busts of saints in roundels, and other figures rising out of coffins at the Resurrection. The west gable bears a demonic figure grasping at what looks like an ankle. There is another scene on the north wall which has yet to be identified; it seems to be a figure of Christ.

Unfortunately, it will be years before the public will be able to see the paintings. Conservation will be a slow process and will not begin until environmental monitoring and pigment analysis, for example, have been conducted. There is also the ethical dilemma of how much to save of the later periods.

Normally, scholars would be delight-

least two medieval layers there. Traces of rare pigments reflect that the painting would be "a ghost of what it was", he said. "But that is to be expected. It may

be faint, but it is remarkable."
He added: "The sad thing is that almost every church in England had a scheme like this. We've lost so much. It is such a little church, yet it has an amazing scheme.'

English Heritage and Norfolk County Council have shared the £40,000 cost of sound and protecting the church from the elements and wildlife. It is part of their extensive work in tackling the ruined churches of Norfolk.

Caroline Babington, the project's head of wall paintings conservation, said: The paintings are absolutely stunning, a once-in-a-lifetime experience. To think that they have been tucked away in the middle of nowhere . . . "

The unnamed church was last in regular service in 1936 but, even then. was in a poor state of repair. Although designated a ruin, it was never officially declared redundant and could be re-

Candid camera catches neighbour dishing dirt on ornamental fish

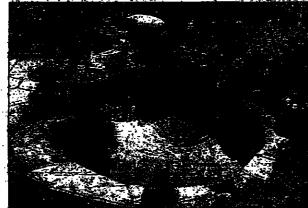
n en la g

A COUNCIL care worker car long fend with her neighbour has been fined shore than £600. Sylvin Place, 52, was filmed polluting the wat-er of Marjoric Radford's garden pend by throwing lumps of earth over the fence.

Place and Mrs Redford ended in the death of 22 of Mrs. Redford's fish, including mirror carp, golden orie, Japanese koi and Israeli koi. A judge at Leeds County Court ordered her to pay damages for the dead fish. To add to her translate the 5642 Mrs. her troubles, the £648 Mrs Place was ordered to pay included the cost of hiring the video camera that Mrs Redford used.

Mrs Place, of Kippez, Leeds, admitted throwing dirt in her neighbour's pond, but denied killing the fish. In September last year police cautioned her after she alleg-edly killed two fish worth £60. In July she received a solicitor's letter alleging the deaths of 17 more fish and a demand

After the hearing earlier



The garden pond in which 22 ornamental fish died

this week Mrs Place said: "I married 32 years and she has threw two handfuls of soil never been in trouble with the into the pond because I was so annoyed at comments Mrs Redford had been making. I just cannot believe it. There is no justice. Mr Redford claimed that, every time he cleaned the pond, it was full of dirt and debris. The judge came to the conclusion that I had done it at other times, but I hadn't."

Mrs Place's husband, Ron, a hospital porter, said: "The



law before." Two months ago, Mrs. Redford sued her other next-door neighbour, Janet Lund, after she filmed her retrieving her six-year-old son's football from the pond with a washing line pole. Mrs Lund, 39, was ordered to pay £27 compensation and £60 costs by a county court judge. Mrs Lund said: "I had

fallen out with them a few weeks before, but then we had problems over Lee's football.

It had gone into the garden a few times but, when he had gone to ask for it back, they had refused.

"I didn't go into their garden. I managed to flip the ball out of the pool and get it back. I couldn't believe it when I got a letter from the Redfords' solicitor saying I had killed two fish and dameged two water lilies."

Mrs Lund contested the claim, but the judge ordered against her. I still can't believe what they did. I would have been better off buying

Raymond Redford, 43, said that he and wife, 46, a shop assistant, had been advised to buy a security camera because of damage that was being caused. We caught Mrs Lund retrieving the football and damaging the fish and lilies in it. We took Mrs Place to court after we caught her on film polluting the fish pond." He said the feud could have begun because neighours were jealous of extensive improvements to his home. He claimed that as well having fish killed, the family car, a Nissan Bluebird, had had two windows broken and a wing

Home movie puts burglars in jail

WHEN Kevin O'Hare was burgled for the fourth time, he decided to set up his own spy system to do something about it. In the sitting room of his house, behind an enlarged framed photo of his parents, he installed a tiny closedcircuit spy camera. When his home was broken

into for the fifth time in 16 months, he caught the two thieves on film. One has now been sentenced to eight years in jail, another to two.

Mr O'Hare, 47, of Crosby. near Liverpool, said: "When I played the tape back it was like winning the lottery. I was gening brassed off with the thieves. I was determined to stop them. In fact, I was 50 determined it was getting in the way of my social life. I tried parking the car round the corner and sneak-



Kevin O'Hare filmed thieves burgling his house

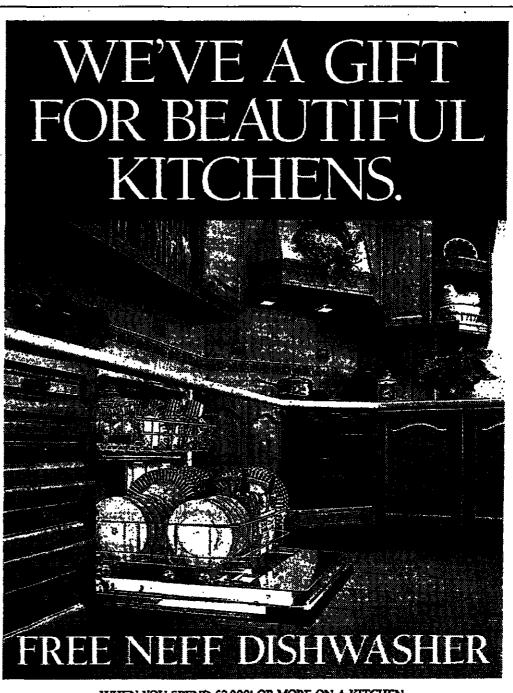
"Then I hit on this idea. It cost about £1,500 to set it up. couldn't have got a better

ing back so they'd think I was out and I tried laying in wait er said he hoped criminals all night, but they didn't come. thought of being detected. "I don't think you stop crime but it was well worth it. I by making your house more secure: thieves always find

opportunities. The only way to stop crime is to catch them and punish them. Make an exam-

ple of them." Detective Constable Guy Tattersail, the officer in charge of the investigation, said: "It is a fantastic video. I wish every member of the public was in a position to do the same. He has been burgled four or five times and this has done the trick. Some nasty characters are now behind bars.

"If someone could manufacture a cheap and effective device to do the same it would certainly get my backing." Superintendent Steve Finnigan, his chief at Crosby police station, was more cautious. He said: "It can undoubtedly help us, but I would like to think that it would be part of a more comprehensive package of alarms, locks and Neighbour-



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Arson inquiry pair lost twins in earlier fire

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A YOUNG couple arrested after a woman died and two of her children were badly burnt in an apparent arson attack lost two of their own children in an accidental fire three years ago.

Magistrates yesterday gave police a further 29 hours to question Anthony and Sue The couple were arrested within an hour of the 2am fire in a terraced house on a council estate in Bushbury,

Wolverhampion. Mr and Mrs Watkiss, both 28, are understood to live next door to the dead woman. Three years ago they lost their 16-month twins, Philip and Martin, in a fire started when two of their children, aged four and five, set fire to paper at their former home.

Neighbours in Stanley Road said the couple had appeared on the BBCI programme 999 Lifesavers and relived the tragedy in which their twin sons died. A BBC spokesman said the programme last Thursday had included "a special report on how firelighters were being trained to counsel children

who start fires". Detective Superintendent Sandy Craig, leading the investigation into the blaze which engulfed the terraced house early on Christmas Day, said: "In the two or three weeks before the attack police were called to Stanley Road on occasions after being called out by two rowing

"When officers arrived the altercation had stopped and we left it at that after talking to both parties. At this stage we cannot reveal what the rows were about.

Michelle Bone-Knell, 34, died in the arson attack and her children Chantel, 2½, and Damian, 18 months, were critically injured. Her common law husband, Graham Perrins, 33, escaped by jumping from a first-floor window.

Ms Bone-Knell was found in a rear bedroom. She died from 80 per cent burns and smoke inhalation. Damian was found in his cot and Chantel under the cot.

They were revived by firefighters. Damian suffered 50 per cent burns, mainly to his back, and is expected to be operated on today at Selly Oak Hospital in Birmingham. Chantel was taken off a ventilator at Birmingahm Children's Hospital, where her condition was described as

Mr Perrins suffered lacerations to his arms and 5 per cent burns. He was transferred to a specialist eye





Brass band plays along as brass monkeys take dip in North Sea

EIGHT hundred people plunged into the sea yesterthem on, a brass band playing and a fire brigade crew hosing down those who did not look wet enough. Undannted by the frost, they converged on Seaburn, Sunderlanď's seaside resort, and raised £18,600 for a wide range of charities.

The annual dip, organised y the Sunderland Lions Club, is the biggest event of its kind in the country. The bathers, many going in as

teams and in fancy dress, raised a further £800 for the local lifeboat station through a collection on the beach.

Stuart Kohn, who was master of ceremonies, said: It may be extremely cold but the warm-hearted people of Wearside keep making this bigger and better every year. Everyone has a great time and although we had survival bags on hand in case anyone went down with hypothermia, not a single one was needed.'

A group from St Wilfrid's

Church, Moorside, Sunderland, went as monks — with plenty of warm clothing under their habits. The Rev Paul Walker, who led the group of five swimmers, said: "It still felt very cold. I did it last year and wouldn't have missed it for anything

They were not as hardy. however, as Russian winter bathers, who think nothing of cutting a hole in the ice and jumping in to escape air

this year. We'll be back next

Mer mo Rugby team takes record for game's biggest rout

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE 177-3 drubbing handed out to a plucky rugby club by their rather superior neigh-hours was officially confirmed by The Guinness Book of Records yesterday the the big-gest defeat in the English game.

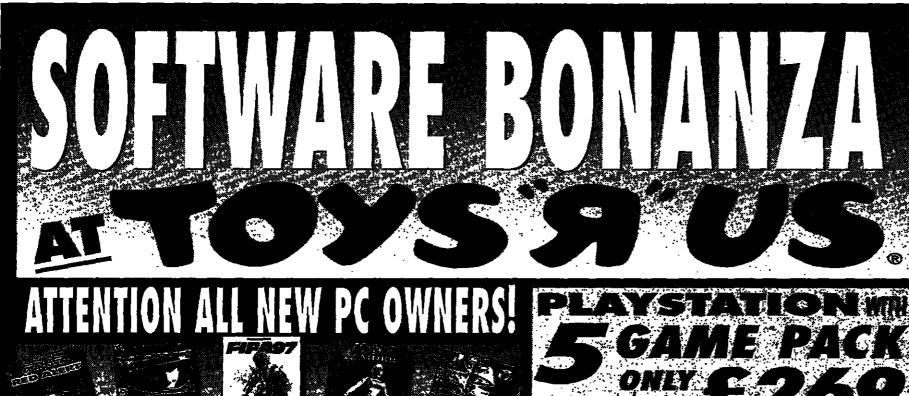
Norwich's victory in the quarter-finals of the NatWest Norfolk Cup over Eccles and Attleborough was hardly unexpected because Norwich are acknowledged one of the best sides in East Anglia, members of the London League's Division One, and only one step below the National League. The 113-year-old club turned

semi-professional at the start of the season. Its ground has four pitches and there are 140 playing members. The club's top team is currently third in its league and pushing hard for promotion.

Eccles and Attleborough is probably the smallest club in the league with a player list of just 40. They are in the fifth division of the Norfolk League and have no dubhouse, chang-

ing in a local pub.

The match is the highest winning margin between two 15-a-side club teams in England. The previous record was set in 1980 when the Army's Seventh Signals Regiment defeated 4th Armoured Workshops in Germany 174-0. The world record is 194-0 in Denmark in



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Children frequently behave like Paul Eddington and mimic adults by finishing any

BBC claims 8 out of 10 top shows

By CAROL MIDGLEY

THE BBC claimed an overwhelming victory over ITV in the battle for Christmas Day television viewers. Eight of its shows made the top ten.

Only Fools and Horses, the BBC's main attraction, had 18.7 million viewers, while a bonus edition of EastEnders came in second with 15.9 million. The dinosaur film Juras sic Park, also shown by the BBC, was third, watched by 14.5 million viewers.

ITV could manage only tion Street, which drew in 9.4 million viewers, six million fewer than EastEnders. A BBC source said it was the largest-ever Christmas gap between EastEnders and Coronation Street, which has been criticised recently for poor scripts.

An ITV spokeswoman said: "Christmas is the time when the BBC traditionally goes for broke and transmits all its toprating shows and major movies in order to dominate the

"Coronation Street was up against Jurassic Park, one of the most popular movies of all time. EastEnders was up against Des O'Connor which, without wanting to criticise

Des. isn't quite the same as Jurassic Park

The figures for Only Fools and Horses, about the antics of two Peckham dealers Del and Rodney, are higher than the 16.8 million who watched last year's leading comedy. One Foot in the Grave. The show, the first of three hourlong specials over the festive season, was the first new episode for three years. There were fears that the cast would not make any other episodes. Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst, said they might consider bringing back the characters if there was enough

public demand. The Vicar of Dibley took fourth place with 14.5 million viewers, followed by Auntie's All-New Christmas Bloomers at 13 million and Animal Hospital Goes West with 9.5 million. The Queen's Christmas message on BBC I was watched by 9.1 million viewers and Noel's Christmas Presents attracted 9 million viewers. In tenth place was Des O'Connor's Christmas Night With The Stars on ITV with

Today's viewing, page 39

Give a child a taste but not a full drink



RICHARD BRIERS'S moreing readings on Radio 4 of the autobiography of his friend Paul Eddington, who died this year, made a pleasant start to the Christmas

holiday. Eddington's life story has provided a few stories of medical interest but, long before he posed the diagnostic conundrum of the intermittent pain in his hip, or gave us the history of his mycosis fungoides, the rare but slowly lethal form of T-cell lymphoma, his listeners were left feeling thankful that he survived his mother's social life. In his early childhood, his

mother ran a salon for local intellectuals. Her guests drank sherry before the evening began. He soon found that his mother's friends did not finish their sherry and that, after they had moved rooms to hear the evening speaker, there was a rich supply of dregs left in the

Children may be offered a taste of adult drinks so that they grow up with the idea that drinking is part of every-day life and not a mysterious vice, but parents should know that alcohol has particular danger when taken in excess by a young child.

glasses which have not been emptied. Other children raid the sideboard when no one in authority is about Alcohol should be kept out of reach of children, for when a small child takes too much alcohol the blood-sugar level rises alarmingly quickly, inducing an outpouring of insulin from

the pancreas. The pancreas overdoes the insulin production and, as a result, the blood sugar then falls to dangerously low levels. producing hypoghycaemia. The blood sugar can fall so far that the child loses consciousness and may even die. If unconsciousness has been brought on, patients of whatever age will require a

glucose drip. Most adults suffer lesser effects of hypoglycaemia as part of a hangover. Hypoglycaemia is partly responsi-ble for the sweating, headaches, shakes and memory loss the next day - hence the value of taking a hearty breakfast to counteract it, if

the drinker can face one. The only adults who are likely to suffer dangerous symptoms of hypoglycaemia after drinking are those who. like some homeless people, are severely mainourished.

> DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

hibritute

French crack down on 'excesses of the slopes'

Dangerous skiers face jail after two die in crashes

IN PARIS
AND IAN MURRAY

RECKLESS skiers who cause accidents in France could end up in jail after two people died on the slopes last weekend. As the Alpine ski resorts prepare for their busiest week of the year, the French judicial au thorities say they are prepared to fine and imprison skiers

responsible for collisions.

"I don't want to have to put people in jail, but I will not hesitate to do so if it is necessary," said René Ternoy, the Albertville State Prosecutor who is reponsible for enforcing the law in many of the French resorts. "Skiers are going faster and faster and paying less and less attention to others, and the injuries we are seeing now are like road accident injuries.

Guy Drut, the French Sports Minister, yesterday condemned the increasing individualism" of skiers and told other French prosecutors to take an equally hard line with "excesses on the slopes". He announced that he would introduce a law in the spring enabling police to prosecute people for reckless ski-ing just as reckless drivers can be

charged. The two skiers who died were both French, one a tenyear-old boy hit by a young man training for a competition in Courcheval, a resort popular with Britons. According to M Ternoy, the boy was ski-ing where he should have been, on an easy slope accom-panied by his family when he was struck by a skier going at

full speed".

In the second fatal accident, at Tignes, a 76-year-old man died when he collided with another skier at a junction between two runs. They both tried to get across first and didn't make it," M Ternoy

Jean Zimmer, a guide with Top Ski in Val-d'Isère, said recent accidents were increasing pressure for legislation. but that there was no real need for it. "You cannot stop this happening with laws. It has always been like this and we do not need to copy the Americans and impose speed limits. The problem is increas-ing because there are more states have tough legislation against recklessness and re-

There are no general regulations covering skiing safety but most winter sport countries impose some controls. ■ Switzerland: fines can be imposed under criminal laws

reckless skiers to slow down.

America: Some states have laws with up to two years' imprisonment and \$5,000 fines for reckless skiing. Patrollers have the power to confiscate lift tickets. Some resorts use speed guns to measure fast skiers.

Canada: British Columbia and Quebec have laws with

all there is the difficulty in coping with the growing numbers on snowboards.

"They are dangerous because they have a totally different trajectory to a skier. When there are a lot of them about it is safer to ski off piste with a guide than to stay on

He is backing a private member's bill introduced by Pierrre Pascallon, the deputy for Issoire, and now before the National Assembly. It seeks to force snowboarders and skiers to use different runs. According to M Pascallon, ski-ing is now as dangerous as motorcycling with I15,000 people injured in France each year. He says three quarters of all collisions are caused by snowboarders, even though

they represent only 20 per cent

of all those using the slopes. The tough stance promised by the French authorities represents a radical change of policy since 1993, when a French skier who hit and killed Nicola Jones, an 18-yearold Briton, in Tignes, escaped with a £350 fine and a suspended jail sentence. The law allows for skiers to be prosecuted where they are responsible for an accident. The

and two years for causing In North America, where ski-ing is generally more regu-lated than in Europe, most

maximum jail sentence for

manslaughter is three years

SAFETY ON THE SLOPES

against reckless skiing, but laws vary from canton to

MAINSTRIE: no specific laws and difficult to impose nationally as each of the eight provinces is responsible for its own laws. Some Tyrolean resorts have recently introduced piste patrollers to help skiers. They also warn

II Italy: No specific laws but charges of criminal assault or

manslaughter could follow a ski collision.

fines for reckless skiing but all resorts rely on patrols, who have the power to confiscate ski lift passes.

sionals who have the power to confiscate lift passes from dangerous skiers. In Colorado, a skier who injures someone while out of control is charged with third degree assault, which can mean a two year prison sentence and fines

of up to \$5,000 (£3,000). "As far as I know there has only ever been one prosecution which resulted in someone being imprisoned," Lyrin Bronikowski, of Colorado Ski Country, said. That is because we lay the emphasis on safety first and fun second. In Europe you have a long way to go to catch us up on safety." Confiscation of passes that can cost up to \$1,200 (E750) a season is a serious

deterrent. California, offenders are made to watch a video of ski-ing accident victims before they can get their pass back.

Dr Graham Plant, a radiologist from Basingstoke, Hampshire, on holiday in Vald'Isère, agreed that recklessness was a problem in Europe, "especially after lunch when people have had a few beers. For that reason a lot of parents prefer to go to America where it is better regulated and

Snow reports, page 26



Cairn Gorm yesterday, where fresh snow brought hundreds to the slopes

Snow on the hills, but ice on the roads

A FRESH fall of snow yester day brought thousands of skiers on to the slopes in parts of Scotland while ice made road conditions treach-

erous throughout Britain. Hundreds enjoyed a day of snowboarding and skiing on the slopes of Cairn Gorm, near Aviemore. At the White Corries centre in Glen Coe there was a dusting of fresh snow in the morning on a

Some light snowfalls are expected today, edging south across England and Wales. They will be generally light and confined to higher

ground in the east. Treacherous conditions on busy roads caused heavy delays. Two women died in an accident on the A428 on the border between Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire and a woman passenger was killed when two cars collided in Peterborough in the early hours. Police have urged drivers to take extra care on treacherous roads, with more ice expected.

10 top show

C claims 8 ou

Rugby team

lakes record

for same;

biggest rout

people on the slopes and above sorts are patrolled by profes-Latest equipment is no substitute for experience successful downhill ski



Martin Bell, Britain's most racer, argues that greater speed brings with it a need for greater responsibility

THE desire to emulate downhill racers may provide moti-vation for reckless skiing but the reasons behind it probably lie more in the preparation of groomed slopes and

modern equipment.
Poor snow conditions a few years ago persuaded many ski areas to install more artificial show cannons to guarantee skiing but on on a surface that is harder and less forgiving. When conditions are good, as at present, the smoothness and width of modern prepared runs can give skiers greater confidence and disguise their true speed.

I remember from downfill racing that 70mph, on a well prepared course with good visibility, can feel quite slow and controlled — until some-

thing goes wrong.
Following an extremely popular introduction in America last season, this year sees the first mass distribution in Europe of a radically new design: "carving" skis, also known as "super also known as "super sidecut", "parabolic", "hour-glass" or "shaped" skis.

A carving ski possesses a much wider tip and tail at either end, and a narrow waist beneath the ski boot ironically a feature that was borrowed from snowboarding, the greatest threat to the ski manufacturing industry in

Cheaper

Car

recent years. The great curvature of the edge helps less skilled and experienced recreational skiers to perform the "carved turn", developed by racers as a means of changing direction without losing speed. This season more skiers than ever will be carving high speed turns, while lack-

situation ahead of them and take instant evasive action. In recent years, snow-boarders have been convenient scapegoats for many incidents on the slopes, but while it is true that they are generally younger than ski-ers, snowboarding organ-

isations are educating snow-

ing the experience to read the

boarders to be safer. Whenever the British ski team trained through slalom or downhill courses, we would always take care to do so in a fenced off area. However, accidents can always happen: one afternoon, after finishing training, we saw a group leave a mountain hut, duck under the fence, and attempt to ski down our downhill training course. Before we could stop them,

one of them had flown off our jump and broken both his legs. When we arrived on the scene, we could smell the schnapps on their breath.

Christmas is the busiest time on the slopes, and there-fore the most difficult time to persuade a ski area to allocate any team a closed run for training. Some irresponsible racers will always go ahead and set a course on a public run anyway. Ever greater dangers loom.

not just on the piste but off piste as well the new macho culture of "extreme skiing", defined as "fall and you die". is encouraging cliff jumping and the descents of steep





Temple of learning will dine in classical style

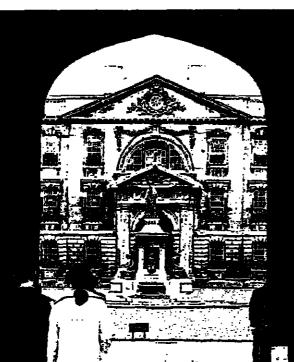
FELLOWS at a Cambridge college will soon be dining in classical splendour. Their new dining room at Gonville and Caius College, designed by the leading classical architect recreation of the cella, or inner chamber, of the ruined temple of Apollo at Bassae in the Peloponnese.

The site was visited by the architect Charles Robert Cockerell in 1811. He braved bandits and malaria to spend ten days studying the remains. Cockerell later designed the elegant Squire law library. which Caius acquired when the law faculty moved to a new steel and glass building by Sir Norman Foster.

Greek in every detail, down to the sabre-legged, round-backed Klismos chairs copied from ancient Greek vases. Neil McKendrick, the Master of Caius, said: "Fifty fellows will be able to sit down to lunch at a long table. This is designed in sections which fit into recesses along the walls when we want to use the room

He added: "People think of Downing as the classical college at Cambridge, but Cajus is the college of the classical conceit, notably the famous classical gateways designed by Doctor Caius himself." Dr Caius, who became Master in 1559, studied in Padua and was one of the first to experiment with renaissance archi-

tecture in England.



The entrance to Gonville and Caius, described as the Cambridge college "of the classical conceit"

that the whole frieze

said: "When I was elected

Master I decided to buy my-

temple was unusual in having he discovered a perfectly prefluted Ionic columns attached served section of its frieze and the wall. These columns had a distinctive arched version of must lie buried near it. This the usual lonic scroll capital, was excavated the next year which Cockerell turned into a and taken to London for display in the British Musesignature on many of his buildings. Mr Simpson said: um. "We're reproducing parts of the frieze along the walls, The Bassae temple also had the first known example of the Corinthian column, which we The new dining room is second major development at the college. Mr McKendrick have reproduced at the end of

While Cockerell was studying the remains of the temple,

much success until pointed towards a dusty box of interiors at the back of a shop. There I found a drawing of a vanished room at Caius deigned by Sir John Soane." He went on: "I took this to

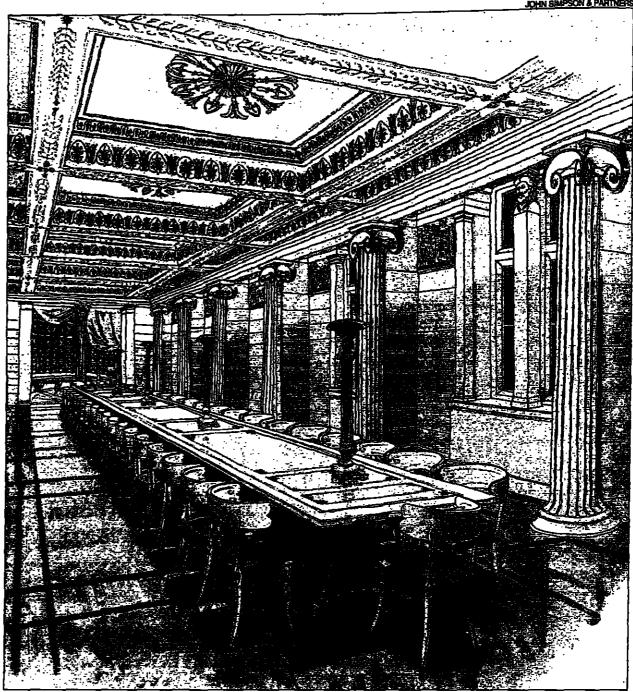
my first fellows meeting where we were going to dis-cuss what to do with the wing vacated when our library moved into the Squire building. There was a unanimous vote to restore the Soane room and thereafter there was no doubt the whole interior

The Soane room is to be used as a new fellows' reading room. A donor, hearing of the discovery of the drawing, ofmemorial to her husband.

The new dining room, which will be completed in the summer, will be in plaster rather than stone. The colour scheme has yet to be decided, but it is likely to be in terracotta with the omamental classical detail highlighted

Mr Simpson said: "The Bassae temple is in a very remote part of the Peloponto protect it. It's the same date as the Parthenon." The ancient Greek writer, Pausanias, attributed the Bassae temple to Ictinus, one of the architects of the Parthenon.

Dr David Watkin, the Cambridge architectural historian, said: "Simpson's design demlanguage. It's not a straitjacket



The dining room at Gonville and Caius will feature Ionic columns with a distinctive capital attached to buttresses, and a Corinthian column, the first known example of which was found in the temple at Bassae

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Police leaders reject plan for register of Masons

By Richard Ford, home correspondent

organproposals to force them to disclose their membership of Masonic lodges.

Mike Bennett, the Police Pederation's leader in the Metropolitan Police, denounced the proposal by the Police described the authority as an elitist quango of yesterday's people who are desperate to

get public credibility". The authority has made the proposal to the Commons Home Affairs Committee, which is investigating the alleged influence of Masons in

the police and judiciary. Mr Bennett, who has never been a Freemason, gave warning that requiring officers to register their membership could be the thin end of the wedge". He said: "If it starts with Freemasons, where does

it stop? We will have to register membership of golf clubs and perhaps even our religion. In October, the national Police Federation attacked

proposals from the Association of Chief Police Officers "unwarranted interference" in officers' private lives. V. V. 1917. The Association of Women

to the Home Affairs Committee that those appointed to the judiciary be required to leave the Freemasons or admit their membership. The deputy chairman of the

Police Complaints Authority, the former MP John Cartwright, said that, until a officers should be asked to declare on their personal files whether they were a member of a Masonic lodge. This would start to dismantle this culture of secrecy which we think is harmful to the police

service ... Sometimes senior police officers or middle-ranking police officers are memwright said. There may be

of the Police Superintendents Association, said his organisation would welcome a voluntary register of Freemasons and members of comparable organisations as long as it also covered others employed in the criminal justice system. The plans for a compulsory register had caused concern among his membership, Mr Mackenzie said.

Lord Justice Millett, a Court of Appeal judge, said yesterday that his membership of the Freemasons had nothing to do with his job as a judge.



Donations

for charity

are stolen

Thieves stole food and clothing collected by a charity for distribution to the hungry,

elderly and handicapped in Russia. They broke into two lorry trailers parked outside a

hall being used as a collection point at Seven Mile Strait, near Templepatrick, Co An-trim, Last year, diesel from

trucks was syphoned off the

night before the Eschol Trust convoy set off on the trip and in 1992 about £2,000 worth of

Couple die in fire

An elderly couple died in a fire despite their grandson's at-tempt to rescue them. William

George, who was in his eight-ies, could not be revived after

being carried from the flat in

Plymouth by David Hayworth, 24. He could not reach

Nottingham Castle will be closed to the public until Monday after a burst water main sent boulders from the

castle cliff tumbling on to a

city street below. Police said: "It was lucky it was a quiet

day, otherwise someone might

Teenager returns

have been injured."

Mr George's wife, Vera, 83.

Castle closed

goods were stolen.

College sacks pair in sick leave row

By A STAFF REPORTER

A FURTHER education college has sacked its chief executive and a director after claims that they had been running a pub while on sick leave. Neil Preston, the £90,000 a year head of Stoke-on-Trent Coll-ege, and Helen Chandler, its director of marketing, had been off work since the end of

September.

The college, one of the largest in the country with 21,000 students and about 1,300 staff, set up a committee to investigate allegations that the two had been working at the Purnock Arms with in the Dymock Arms pub in Penley, Clwyd, while on sick leave for stress-related illnesses. After a series of meetings, officials announced on Christmas Eve that both had been

dismissed without notice. Kevin Farrell, chairman of the college's governing corporation, said: The corporation members felt, after receiving their report, that this was the correct and appropriate action

The lecturers' union Natifie, whose members had criticised Mr Preston's management style, welcomed the decision. The union had carried out a staff survey after receiving several complaints from lecturers, whose morale was said to be very low. A union official said: "I don't think the two could have gone back to the college and operated successfully. Some 90 per cent of the staff were critical of Mr Preston and there were loads of complaints about bullying and dictatorial style. The staff

were very against them." Mr Preston moved from a Buckinghamshire college. where Mrs Chandler was his deputy, to Stoke-on-Trent in 1993. She followed him in 1994. Doctors' sick notes for the pair were received in September and cover the per-iod up to early next month. But it was then claimed they had been renovating the Dymock Arms for about three months. Mrs Chandler was said to have told customers that turnover had trebled in 12

ers reject plan

er of Masons

Mr Preston and Mrs Chandier could not be contacted for comment. At the Dymock Arms, Ieuan Jones said he had been appointed manager two months ago.

Sisters embark on modelling careers after screen debut in The Odyssey







Sister act: Nifa Hindes, left, and Nishan in Francis Ford Coppola's film of The Odyssey. From top, the twins aged eight months, eight years and in the Brownies

Twin sirens postpone university for the catwalk

By CAROL MIDGLEY

TWIN sisters who found stardom after being cast in a Hollywood film of Homer's The Odyssey said yesterday that they were postponing their university studies to become

Nishan and Nifa Hindes, 18, have been signed by the fashion houses DKNY, Glost and Red or Dead only four months after passing three A Levels each. The sisters, who have a Fijian Indian mother and English father, are both 6ft tall.

They were recruited to play the seductive sirens in Francis Ford Coppola's film because of their distinctive looks. They travelled to inctive looks. They travelled to Turkey to make the film with the actresses Greta Scaechi and Isabel-

Yesterday, at their family home in Stroud, Gloucestershire, they said they had been deluged with offers of modelling work and had already appeared in Vogue and Cosmopolitun. They have left home to rent a flat together in London after being signed by Storm, the model agency which "discovered" Kate Moss. However, their mother, Janifa, 44, hopes that they will take up their places to read media studies at Exeter University next year. Stroud, Gloucestershire, they said

Exeter University next year. Nishan said: "We can't believe what has happened to us in just a few months and, because we are enjoying it so much and financially it has been so good, it is an opportunity we can't miss. We auditioned and got the part of two sirens, which was amazing.

"We only knew we were going to Milan the day before, and the filming in Turkey was at a week's notice. We have been in loads of magazines and advertisements and, even though we had our doubts about London, people have been so nice we now feel comfortable with it.

"Storm keep us pretty busy — and keep an eye on us — and we have lots of family in London. It's been fantastic to get back to see the family here for Christmas as we

said: "They are two of the most exciting girls I have ever seen. They haven't seen them as much as we'd like recently." Most of the twins' work is as a double act. "We do pretty much everything together, although we have separate friends," Nishan said. "Fortunately, we get "I took one look at Nifa and Nishan and signed them immed-iately. They are absolutely gorgeous and are totally natural. They walk like dreams and they have bodies

Nishan said. "Fortunately, we get on really well. The future's very open at the moment.

"It all depends how this year goes. I think if and when we do stop it will be a joint decision. I can't imagine one of us going off to university without the other. The New Year is looking brilliant. We are off to Düsseldorf on the carwalk in Lanuary. I would recommend. in January. I would recommend anybody finding themselves in our

ation to do the same." Sarah Doukas, head of Storm,

are already approaching super-model status and, if they want to

continue in this business, there is

"People are going mad for them.

Twins can be a novelty, but usually

one is a little better than the other.

With Nishan and Nifa there isn't

that problem, which makes them

unique. They are so gorgeous they

nothing they can't achieve.

to die for.

stop traffic."

A teenager missing for more than three months returned Kirsty McIlvar, 15, vanished from her home in Gourock, Strathclyde, on September 17. No reason for her disappearance or where she has been staying has been given.

Trouser thieves

Thieves stole 30 pairs of trousers while two rugby teams were out on the pitch. Cash and valuables worth £1,200 were stolen from a side from Billingham, Stockton-on-Tees, and from another team

Dog in a flap

Firemen had to cut free a 12stone St Bernard after its head became stuck in a cat flap. Three-year-old Freddie was trapped in the door for four hours after trying to chase the family cat into the garden of their owner's house in Basingstoke, Hampshire.



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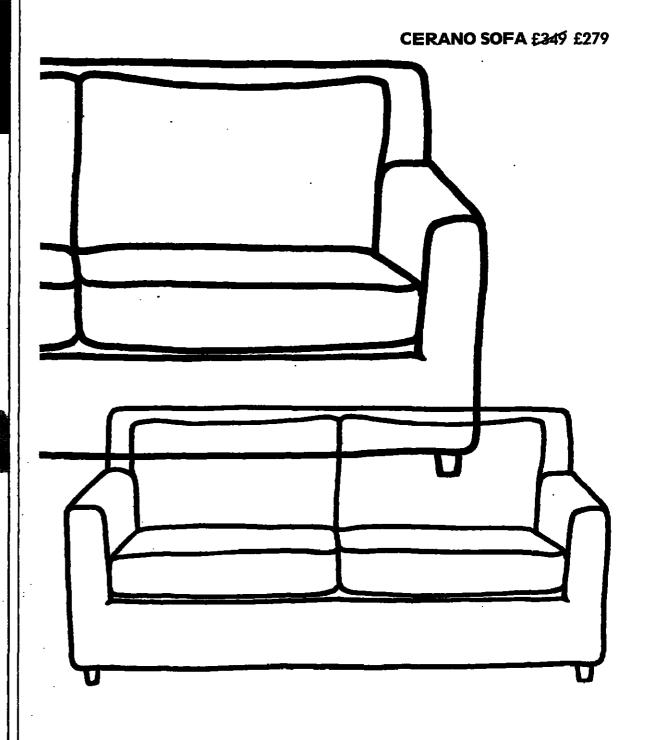
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Mink lose ground as otters return to the riverbank

By Michael Hornsby, agriculture correspondent

OFTERS are putting the alien mink to rout on Britain's riverbanks. In the process, they are throwing a lifeline to their small and endangered neighbour, the water vole.

Studies by the Northumberland Wildlife Trust show that growth in the otter population in northeast England is going hand in hand with a decline in the numbers of predatory wild mink. As otters declined, mink tended to move into their territory," Lisa Kerslake, the must's conservation manager said. "But where otters and mink are in competition for the same habitat, the otters will win out. We have seen some quite dramatic falls in mink numbers where otters are on the increase."

Mink were introduced to Britain from North America in the 1920s to be reared for their fur. Many escaped from farms to establish themselves on riverbanks, where they proved efficient predators capable of pursuing water voles into the water and even into their burrows.

in a survey last year on all the main rivers in Northumberland, the trust found signs of otter presence at 70 per cent of the sites visited, compared with only 23 per cent four years earlier. Otter recovery was particularly good on the



Mink: took advantage of the otter's decline

Tili, Aln, Coquet, Wansbeck and Tyne.

The otter, once close to extinction, has been returning to other parts of England. A study published earlier this year by the Vincent Wildlife Trust looked at 3.188 sites all over England and found strong evidence that otters were recolonising long-desert-

In the course of the study. researchers revisited many sites that had been monitored in an earlier survey in the late 1970s. Twenty-three per cent of these sites showed signs of being occupied by otters, compared with only 6 per cent two

Otters are elusive at the best

of times and betray their presence mainly by their paw prints and their black, tar-like droppings, known as spraints. The creatures were seen as pests by anglers and were hunted with dogs until well after the Second World War. During the 1950s and 1960s,

organochlorine pesticides such as DDT, dieldrin and aldrin took a heavy toll, draining off arable fields into rivers and accumulating in the fatty tissue of eels, the otter's favourite food. The chemicals slowly gathered in the bodies of the otters themselves, impairing their ability to

Philip Wayre, founder of the Otter Trust at Earsham, Norfolk, said the banning of such pesticides has probably been the single biggest reason for the creatures' recovery. "Even in a heavily farmed area such as East Anglia, where otters were down to single figures at one point, there are now several hundred," he said.

Otters were also affected by the tidying of riverbanks, but more ecologically sensitive management has helped to improve their habitat and that of other riverine creatures, such as the water vole, the much-loved Ratty of Kenneth Grahame's The Wind in the



مكذا بن الملاحل

Orphaned cub thought it was a duck

LIFE can be confusing for a baby otter without a mother. For a three-monthold cub, called Jarvis by its rescuers, it

led to an identity crisis. After its mother was killed by a car the tired and hungry infant was discovered waddling after a duck. Yesterday the orphaned cub was being cared for by members of a mid-Wales wildlife group, who had found it chasing the reluctant foster parent.

The group had launched a two-day search for the otter after its mother was

found dead on the A40 near the River Usk outside Brecon, Powys. Diane Russell, administrator of Brecknock Wildlife Trust that belped to organise the search, said: "From the results of the autopsy we could tell that the mother had had a litter very recently. The otter group members used their knowledge of the river to try to find the cubs but there was no sign of them.

Then, by a stroke of luck, someone saw Jarvis chasing after a duck waddling down a lane. After spending four and confused — and he probably

thought the duck was his mother." Jarvis was handed to Gareth and Jane Jones, otter group members, and is now being fed on small fish. In the new year it will be taken to an otter sanctuary in Scotland. It is hoped that six to nine months later it can be returned to the banks of the Usk. Mr Jones, of Llangorse, near Brecon, said: "He's a very friendly and inquisitive creature. We'll all miss him when he goes."

Criminal experts to test saintly mystery

By A STAFF REPORTER

A TEAM of criminal pathologists is to examine a casket of bones to try to determine whether they are those of St David, the patron saint of Wales. The casket was discovered by workmen behind the high altar of St David's Cathedral in the last century.

Church authorities have given permission for Professor Bernard Knight and the surgeon Colin Dent, who both worked on the Frederick and Rosemary West murders, to take part in the investigation. They will use the methods they employed to identify the Wests' victims to find out if the bones belonged to St David. DNA tests will be compared with those carried out on the saint's mother, St Non, who is buried in France. The casket has been taken to

Oxford University where scientists at Keble College will date the bones using a radiocarbon accelerator unit.

Dr Len Noakes, one of the scientists working on the project, said: "I would love to think they are the bones of St David. He was reputedly a tall man and our early findings show the bones belonged to a

man over oft tall." St David died in either 589 or 590 after preaching on a pilgrimage through Wales and England. According to legend he died on March I, St David's Day.



The African elephant in danger, despite ivory ban

Ivory poachers prey on greed and ignorance

By DANIEL McGRORY

WITH guns and machetes, African villagers slaughtered an entire herd of 330 elephants, including many pregnant females and calves

The poaching gang who organised the kill in the Mouadie Forest on Congo's border with Gabon had persuaded the locals they were doing nothing wrong, as the international ban on the ivory trade was to be lifted. Sue Fisher, head of conser-

vation for the charity Tusk Force, which backs antipoaching projects, said: Once there is even a rumour that the ban is to be lifted, the poachers waste no time. The network is in place, from those who track elephants to the men with the guns, the smugglers and the ivory carvers." She added: "When one nation proposes lifting the ban, others suffer. In 1994, Sudan wanted a relaxation and elephants were poached as far away as India.

Before the ban was imposed, in 1989, the number of African elephants had more than halved. Even now the poaching continues and fewer than 580,000 remain.

Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana are arguing that Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) should lift the ban. Zimbabwe, which is parts of the world."

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hosting the conference, has been embarrassed by revelations that up to a third of the vanished and that some of it has been smuggled to the Far East, where the trade is still thriving. The demand for ivory has all but collapsed in Europe and America, now that the conservationists' message has got through.

The rangers who protect the animals are outnumbered and outgurned by gangs with first half of 1996, three rangers from the Zambian National Parks and Wildlife Service were killed and two seriously wounded and 578 guns, 5.000 wire snares and 223 tusks seized. In Namibia there is so little funding for law enforcement against rhinoceros poachers that rangers have kept suspects in their homes until they could take them to court.

Swaziland lost 70 per cent of its wildlife between 1987 and 1992, and 30 rangers have been recruited to protect the remaining elephants and rhi-nos. The chief ranger, Petros Ngomane, has survived being shot at and having petrol bombs thrown into his home. Ms Fisher said: "Without their dedication there is no doubt that many species

would be extinct in many

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Clinton to throw down gauntlet on balancing budget

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton is preparing to seize the initiative in next year's budget battle with a plan to balance the books by 2002 and also deliver tax

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Sceptical Republicans who hold a majority in Congress are waiting for details of his plan before offering their own. The President had invited them to join the deliberations last month, but they turned him down. White House budget officials and Mr Clinton have pressed ahead in recent days to fashion their own

proposals. The two sides are unlikely to be as confrontational as a year ago, when deadlock over trying to eliminate the budget deficit led to the Republicans twice shutting down the government, a tactic that came back to baunt them during the election.

Without any similar cam-paign pressures, Mr Clinton and the Republicans ought to find their goals have more in common, although there will undoubtedly be fights over

how to achieve them. Mr Clinton's aim is to protect government entitlements for the elderly and the needy while giving tax breaks to the middle class. Republitaxpayers' interests at heart, but will fight to retain welfare cuts that they forced on a reluctant Mr. Clinton last

Mr Clinton is expected to step boldly into the welfare controversy by proposing to restore \$16 billion (£9 billion) of the \$55 billion that was chopped out. One option would allow immigrant children to remain eligible for welfare benefits. Mr Clinton will also try again to rein in Medicare - the national health service for the elderly that is threatened with bankruptcy - but with less draco-

Republicans want. His new budget, due to be unveiled early in February, will propose \$130 billion in tax relief over the next five years. including a \$500 per child tax credit, deductions to pay for college expenses and elimination of capital gains taxes on sales of homes worth less than \$500,000.

savings than the

All these ideas were proposed by Mr Clinton during his campaign for re-election. He persuaded voters they were better for the economy than Bob Dole's more generous 15 per cent tax cut. But the

get includes a controversial trigger mechanism that would eliminate certain tax breaks in 2001 to ensure balancing the budget by 2002. The President proposed a

similar device last year and was attacked by Republicans who saw the equivalent of a conjurar's trick in offering the promise of tax relief only to make it disappear. They portrayed him as unwilling to accept tougher spending cuts. The White House parries

the criticism by saying the trigger is needed to meet the priority that Mr Clinton shares with the Republicans of reducing the budget deficit to zero by 2002, two years after he will have left office. He has already made great strides, the deficit having gone down from \$290 billion when he was first elected in 1992 to \$107 billion now.

Mr Clinton has rejected one idea to save \$1 trillion over 12 years. He will not propose trimming the annual cost of living increases received by 60 million Americans in social security pensions and other government benefits. Economists say the savings are possible if he accepts that the Government's consumer price



After eight years of preparation work, Graham Hawkes pilots Deep Flight 1 in Monterey Bay while Eric Hobson, a colleague, hitches a ride

British inventor plumbs the depths on maiden trip

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

LOOKING like an overfed cruise missile, the brainchild of one of the world's leading ocean explorers sits in a workshop on the edge of San Francisco Bay, waiting to

Deep Flight 1, built for \$1 million (£600,000) by British

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is the first "hydrobatic" minisubmarine. After almost a decade of toil and tinkering, the nervous designer was strapped face-down into its Perspex nose cone for a maiden voyage in Monterey Bay that proved "harrowing" but

"At first the water was murky and I had no idea

which way up I was," he said. "But when it cleared and I saw the bottom for the first time it was magic; the mo-ment of truth after eight

kes is an unlikely pilot of a machine worthy of James Bond, but an ambitious one. In Deep Flight 2, which so far exists only on the drawing

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board and will take \$7 million to achieve, he hopes to "fly" 11 miles down to the inky abyss of the Marianas Trench and submersibles. to "blast along the mid-ocean ridge" that encircles the globe

The bespectacled Mr Haw-10,000ft underwater. In the process he means to discover the two thirds of the planet mankind has never seen. "A terrestrial explorer would probably have to tie his legs together and hop back-wards to the North Pole to do anything new," Mr Hawkes said. "But under the surface of

the ocean you have to go out of your way to see anything that's been seen before. Ninety-five per cent of life on Earth is aquatic and half of it is still unknown to science." The Marianas in the western Pacific have been plumbed before, when Jacques Piccard and US Navy

Trieste, in 1960.

attempt by Japan to develop a new generation of unmanned

This mild-mannered engineer from Tooting, south London, is convinced natural wonders and possibly a financial bonanza await the first real conqueror of the deep. Science tends to support him: huge gashes on surfacing sperm whales have satisfied experts that giant sould never seen by people grow up to 70ft long beyond the reach of sunlight. Mineral bounties may also litter the ocean floor. Submersibles attached to mother ships have already stumbled on nodules of pure

Lieutenant Don Walsh descended to 35,800ft (nearly two miles lower than Mt Everest is high) in their cumbersome steel bathyscaph, the

The only competition for Mr Hawkes in his quest to return there by the end of the

manganese and thermal vents along the mid-ocean ridge. Deep Flight I, a cross between a deep-sea diving suit and a conventional submarine, can dive, climb, turn and roll thanks to fins and twin motors driven by the equivalent of 20 car batteries. Mr Hawkes believes that within three years he will be able to offer access to Earth's

last frontier for a fraction of

the cost of his Japanese rivals.

US drive to boycott sweatshop clothing

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

A COALITION of American federal agencies, religious and community groups is campaigning to prevent Americans from buying clothing made in the sweatshops of the

Third World. Consciousness has not been raised so much by the coalition, however, as by revelations involving Kathie Lee Gifford one of the most popular queens of daytime tele-vision. In June, Ms Gifford, co-host of the Regis and Kathie Lee Show, admitted that a clothing line bearing her name had been manufactured by under-paid workers in the Third World. Within weeks she had become the fiercest advocate of human rights to prevent American

Flanked by Robert Reich. the Labour Secretary, a tearful Ms Gifford said shoppers needed assurances that a product had not been produced in an "abusive or exoloitative" manner.

consumers from buying such

"We want to shine the light on the cockroaches, basically," she said. Last week the National Labour Committee, which exposed the Gifford story, targeted the Walt Disney Company.

The organisation claimed that Haitian workers employed by a subcontractor in the Caribbean were earning E2 a day to assemble 101 Dalmatians sweatshirts and tracksuit bottoms that sold for almost £16 in the United States. Disney says its Haitian workforce is paid up to 52 cents (3lp) an hour, not the 33 cents suggested.



Ray: dying in coma after liver failure

Assassin to be 'kept alive' for legal plea

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE family of James Earl Ray will approve life support in an effort to keep the convicted assassin of Martin Luther King alive until a court hearing that they hope will help to

clear his name. Ray, 68, jailed for life for shooting the civil rights leader in 1968, remained near death in a coma yesterday with liver failure. His brother, Jerry, said he hoped to keep him alive for a court hearing in Memphis on February 20. "If James dies, that hearing won't happen," he said. "If James dies, he goes down in history as Martin Luther King's killer, and that makes the whole Ray family look bad."

Ray's lawyer is asking the court to order ballistic tests on a rifle which was found covered with Ray's fingerprints after King's murder. Ray claims he was framed by a mystery accomplice named "Raoul" and that the gun is not the true murder weapon.

Burglar stuck in chimney

New York: A burgiar who tried to make a Santa-style entrance into a Baltimore supermarket became stuck in the chimney (James Bone writes).

Dwayne Terry, 33, said he was hungry and decided to wriggle into the shop on

In Dayton, Ohio, another suspected burglar was found dead in the oven vent of a pizzeria. A maintenance worker checking out the faulty oven found the body of a young man with tattooed arms after spotting a shoe on top of the oven.

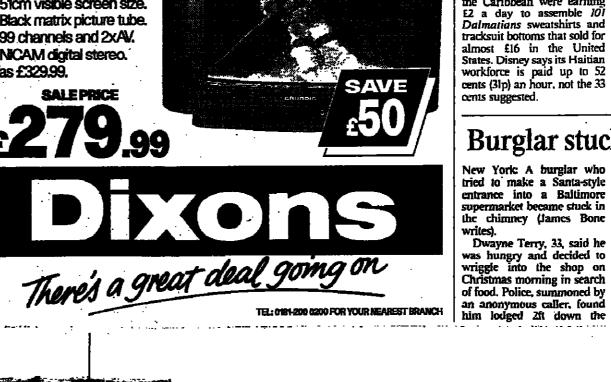
chimney. He was freed by

rescue workers and charged

by police with attempted







Milosevic swamps Belgrade streets with riot police

Leaders of protest fear arrest in new crackdown

By DESSA TREVISAN AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

FIVE thousand riot police forced opposition demonstra-tors off the streets of Belgrade yesterday as the Serbian Government cracked down after five weeks of protests against President Milosevic. Thousands of other police were also deployed in the city

The first death of a protester since the campaign began was confirmed last night. The Serbian Renewal Movement said that Predrag Starcevic, 39, was savagely beaten by Milosevic supporters on Christmas Eve and died on Christmas Day. Another demonstrator, Ivica Lazovic, who critically ill.

A spokeswoman for the Zajedno (Together) opposition arrested. The police swamped



A Serbian opposition supporter flashes a three-finger salute to riot police cordoning off central Belgrade yesterday. Demonstrators shouted: "We are all in prison now."

central Belgrade to enforce an Interior Ministry ban on rate protests by students against the widespread rig-ging of local election results by the ruling Socialist Party. Police ignored a march by 5,000 students but used toughtion by about 30,000 Zajedno

supporters. They forced the demonstrators into a pedestrian area at the Republic Square resisted with their shields and with batons.

Zajedno said that the riot police blocked off all the main streets so that protesters had their rallying point. The oppo-

another police officer died in and that the authorities intended to provoke violence as a pretext for repression. Mr Milosevic sent tanks

respond to violence with violence" and "We are all in prison now". Protesters whose route was blocked walked in into the streets after a policeman was shot dead in 1991, and Vuk Draskovic, a key opposition leader and his wife Dana were arrested after

protests were taking place in more than 50 towns and cities across Serbia.

injured in fighting between police opposition and Socialist Party supporters on Christ-mas Eve when the Goverriment organised a counter-

ties got out far fewer numbers. than the opposition, but claimed the complete reverse.

The three Zajedno leaders said to be threatened with arrest -- Mr Draskovic, Zoran Djindjic and Vesna Pesic strators from a platform in the

tions, its President tries to provoke a civil war? Can you imagine what he would do if he lost a presidential election - provoke a world war?"

He added: "We will always manage to last one day longer than Milosevic. They simply cannot keep 20,000 police in Belgrade every day, but we can hold out for six months if

France and Germany added to the criticism of Mr Milosevic, already voiced by the United States. The Ameri can Administration warned Mr Milosevic that he risks economic reprisals and continued international isolation if he uses violence to

Mr Milosevic rejected a request for an emergency meeting from Richard Mile the American charge d'affaires, who saw Milan Milutinovic, the Foreign Min-

ister, instead yesterday.

☐ Sarajevo: Alija Izetbegovic Bosnia's Muslim leader, said last night that popular unrest in Serbia and Croatia would help to strengthen his country's independence. "Both situations are creating a good environment so Bosnia-Herzegovina can stand on its own feet," he said. "Serbia will be preoccupied with itself for a long time and not with Bosnia-Herzegovina because of internal economic and social reasons." (Reuter)



Mira Markovic: poisonous tongue

Serbia's First Lady is more reviled than husband

By Dessa Trevisan

THE climactic moment throughout the five weeks of demonstrations in Belgrade comes when the name "Slobodan" is yelled through the microphones. The booing and jeering of tens of thousands goes on for ten to 15 minutes, demanding that President Milosevic should go and comparing him to President Saddam

Hussein of Iraq.
That of his wife, Mirjana — or Mira as she is popularly known — evokes even more hatred. When the protests began, however, Mira Markovic, as she prefers to be known, was on tour in India at state expense promoting her latest book, a collection of her magazine diaries that consist of a mixture of political thoughts, poetic descriptions of family life, and

husband's closest party associates, always an indication that they are on their

While she was away in India, one of the protesting students' posters read: "You are safe there, they don't kill cows in She has a girlish voice and a poisonous

tongue, and it is believed by many that it was Mira who masterminded the party coup in 1987 which ousted her husband's mentor and friend and cleared the way for him to take Serbia down what turned out to be a disastrous road. A former friend of the President's wife,

and the man with whom she founded the League of Communists for Yugoslavia in 1990, described her as having more control over Mr Milosevic than an

friend said Mr Milosevic was the weaker partner. "In that tandem, she holds the eins, she holds the handlebars and Sloba turns the pedals," he said.

1993. Demonstrators yester-

Whoever holds the handlebars, the fact remains that Sloba and Mira live in a world totally of their own, the kind of claustrophobic place in which they trust fewer and fewer people and seem to believe what they want to, a Belgrade psychologist said. Mr Milosevic suffers from agoraphobia and, the psychologist said, his condition has obviously deep-ened. His face is puffed up and greenishgrey, a result of spending most of his time

Mr Milosevic and his wife personify the regime; they are the party and the Government and they appear to be oblivious to grim realities. Even now, after more than 100,000 people daily have been marching past his windows for a month, he still talks of people in foreign pay and foreign agents trying to destabilise Serbia.

The thetoric of high-powered national-ism which the Serbian leader used to utter seven years ago has now changed into typical Communist jargon, with the emphasis on forces of the Left who are providing the best solutions and who are going to win in the end. Mira Markovic leads the small party called United Left of Yugoslavia (JUL), which aligned itself with her husband's Socialist Party. In effect, she also runs her husband's party, since anyone who opposed the party



Slobodan Milosevic agoraphobic

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Marquis and count duel over bid for aristocratic wine

THE WORLD'S most prestigious dessert wine is at the centre of a feud that has split one of France's best-known aristocratic families and set off alarm bells throughout Bordeaux.

ered by many experts as the world's finest wine, has been dragged off its pedestal into controversy by a takeover bid. The French luxury goods group, LMVH, wants to buy the Château from the Lur-Saluces family, which has owned it since 1711. With recent vintages selling for at least Fr700 (£83) and 19th-

century vintages fetching about Fr7.000, Yquem would be the jewel in the group's Marquis Eugène de Lur Saluces is keen to sell a controlling stake for about Fr550 million.

His brother, Count Alexandre de Lur Saluces, does not want to sell at any

The consequence is a dispute of an intensity not seen in Yquem since the French Revolution, when republicans wanted to expropriate the Château but were fought off by Countess Françoise de Lur Saluces, owner of the vineyards after her husband, Louis-Amédée fell off a horse

Forgetting centuries of aristocratic discretion, the two brothers have been at loggerheads since LMVH announced in November that it had bought a controlling stake in the 102 hectares of vineyards in the Sauternes area south of Bordeaux.

The marquis says he has the agreement of other members of the family to sell about 55



Château d'Yquem: seen by many as world's best

per cent of their shares to LMVH, which owns Christian Dior perfumes and Moët et Chandon champagne.

But the count claims the shares cannot be sold without his approval, and this week began action in the French civil courts to block the takeover. "Youem must not be relegated to the rank of a banal commercial product," he said. LMVH, which owns vine-

yards in a number of countries but not France, would apply policies incompatible with those that have always prevailed at Youem and which are designed to produce a wine of exceptional quality". the count says.

His supporters say his family has always shied away from commercial techniques and has not hesitated to discard unworthy vintages.

Suicide bomber was mental patient

FROM REUTER IN FRANKFURT

GERMAN police said a Frankfurt woman who killed herself and two women in a Christmas Eve church bomb attack was undergoing psychiatric treatment.

A police spokesman said the 49-year-old woman had been separated for the past year from her husband, who lived with their nine-year-old daughter. The family had once lived in Frankfurt near the scene of the attack.

"I believe her motives were personal," said Peter Borchardt, a Frankfurt police spokesman. "We have ruled out a terrorist or political motive. It appears to be a suicide."

The other victims, two sisters aged 59 and 61, were sitting near the bomber in a rear pew when the blast shook the small stone church in the western Frankfurt district of Sindlingen shortly before

Thirteen other worshippers, including a 12-year-old girl, were badly injured when the blast sent shrapnel, oily black smoke and bits of smashed pews flying through the crowded Protestant church. The girl's condition had stabilised yesterday, but her mother was reported to be extremely critical".

Police did not know if the bomber's separation from her family had anything to do with the attack. They were questioning the husband yesterday. Herr Borchardt said police believe the woman, who set off two hand grenades strapped to her abdomen, did not aim to kill many people because she was leaning for-

Chinese leader visits Moscow

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN HONG KONG

THE growing warmth in the relationship between China and Russia, giant neighbours once deeply suspicious of each other, will be boosted by an official visit to Moscow by Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, which began

In a sign of the burgeoning importance of renewed Sino-Russian ties Mr Li, who

Soviet Union in the 1950s, is visited Peking last April when scheduled to be the first there was talk of a strategic foreign leader to meet President Yeltsin since his return to work last Monday after heart surgery. The Chinese should thus be able to have an early first-hand assessment of the Russian leader's health. Envoys in Peking said Mr

Li's visit would pave the way. for a presidential summit in Moscow next year between Mr Yeltsin and President Jiang Zemin of China. The studied engineering in the two last met when Mr. Yeltsin.

partnership" between the two. although both presidents said this did not mean any future

Analysts believe that one reason the two states are outwardiy showing signs of growing friendship - after three decades as ideological foes who patched up their differences only in 1989 - is to counter-balance American influence both in the Asia-Pacific region and in Europe.



Morocco's future is firmly embedded in medieval past

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MARRAKESH

THE medieval world still flourishes vividly in Morocco. in spite of the country's giant strides towards modernity, its aversion to old-fashioned Islam and its proximity to Europe.
This world is nowhere more

alive than in Marrakesh, a mere two hours by plane from Madrid and only three and a half hours from London. The city, home to nearly half a million people, exudes the essence of another age long consigned in Europe to histbooks, encyclopaedias and the recesses of the imagination.

The medieval nature of Marrakesh offers important political insights into Moroeco, Europe's nearest neigh-bour in Africa and the Arab world, 90 per cent of whose exports are dependent on the European market

The country's social stability is a strategic concern of the first order, and Europe's dip-lomats would do well to look beyond the well-groomed, francophone veneer of their counterparts in Rabat for insights into late 20th-century

The souks of Marrakesh and, above all, the startling

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A snake charmer in Marrakesh, which exudes the essence of an age long consigned in Europe to history books

primitive bowed instruments

from the desert, sing lovelorn

songs of beautiful women in

distant lands, as grateful pass-

ers-by press coins into their

hands. If a country's spirit

resides in its music, Moroc-

open-air market square of the Djmaa El Fnaa, offer an X-ray portrait of Morocco that is, to the Western observer, disquieting and exhilarating.

The youth of the country 70 per cent of the population is below 25 years of age — is apparent in the Dimaa El Fnaa. The square's name means "Assembly of the Dead", but never was a name more inappropriate. Thousands of young men mill about, goggle-eyed with curi-

centuries. Old Berber women jumble of hawkers, musitheir mouths modestly cians, acrobats, snake-charmcovered, shuffle grubby Tarot ers, fortune-tellers and touts cards for an awe-struck audiabout their age-old ence, mumbling predictions that draw gasps from time to Blind troubadours, playing

That weil-worn Western eliché of the "Orient" (Morocco, let it not be forgotten, is farther west than Italy and Greece) is present everywhere in the Djmaa El Fnaa's snakecharmers. Horned vipers, sand boas, kraits and cobras

are all plucked from baskets by fearless men, for whose perform their sinuous dances Young acrobats, some no older than six or seven, whirl alongside the snakes, obeying orders barked by their greyhaired masters.

Intriguingly, the square is dotted with vigorous religious debates, a phenomenon that once flourished in the West. Experts and moralists, dres-

(an ankie-length robe with sleeves and a neatly pointed hood), brandish their learning as if wielding verbal scimitars.

Ideas are expressed freely, and have even acquired a contemporary touch. One debate I witnessed had Israel as its subject. Was it contrary to Islam for Morocco to be at peace with the Jewish state? One wise man argued passionately that it was. His opponent disagreed, speaking of the role of peace and forgiveness in Islam. More than an hour elapsed before the debate was declared a draw. A large crowd had listened with rapt attention.

Medieval hucksters abound in Dimaa El Fnaa, selling a variety of goods, potions and sexual activities. in a freewheeling market. Such markets are important pillars of the Moroccan economy. Unemployment, at 40 per cent for those aged under 30, drives men to make their living in unorthodox ways.

This, perhaps, is the clearest manifestation of a medieval world. To survive, a man must live by his wits, by the definess of his reflexes and by never trusting anyone. A short flight from Europe, there still exists a way of life that we

Churches

ablaze in

Java riot

Jakarta: Indonesian troops moved into a town in western Java last night after a mob set fire to commercial buildings and churches, military offici-

The 5,000-strong mob, many of them youths, was

apparently incensed by re-ports that police had beaten a

religious teacher and his two

students. Residents said the

town had suffered heavy dam-

age, with department stores

set on fire. Police said three

Malaysia storm

toll rises to 106

Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

The death toll in a tropical

storm that hit eastern Malay-

106 yesterday as rescuers

began to identify bodies recovered from rivers and

under debris. At least 100 people are missing. Police said about 3,000 people were left

homeless after tropical storm

Greg blew ashore in the state

Burma bombing

blamed on rebels

Rangoon: The death toll from

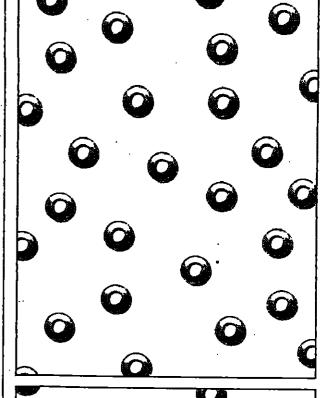
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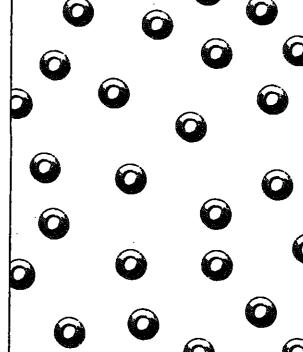
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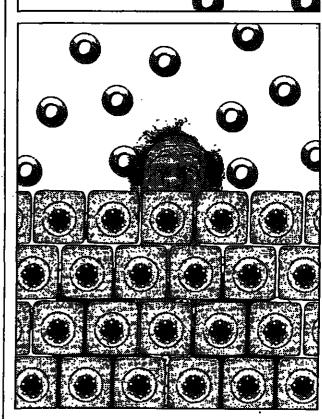
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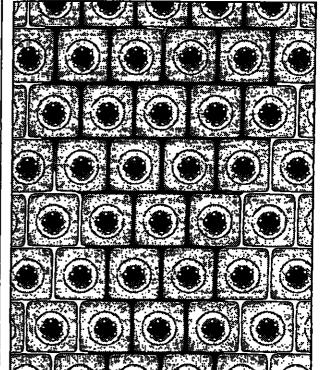
alight. (Reuter)

als said.











Rabbis tell soldiers to keep grip on 'God's land'

A GROUP of radical rabbis yesterday called on Israeli soldiers to disobey orders to withdraw from Hebron even as Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, spoke of the troop. pullout being imminent. The rabbis said Hebron, on

the West Bank, was part of the land given to the Jews by God. Calling themselves "The Rabbis Unite for the People of Israel and the Land of Israel". the group said it was forbidden under Jewish religious law to hand any part of this area over to the Palestinians. There were fears that this observant soldiers in the dilemma of having to choose between God and country.

Among the six signatories to the decree was Rabbi Eliezer Waldmann, who runs a religious school for youths serving in the army. The decree was originally issued last year and caused a public outcry. In another development, a

far right-wing group, the ul-tra-Orthodox Habad, published the contents of a letter sent to the group by Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, shortly before his election in May.

"A Government we will head will see to it that a Palestinian state is not created and that other parts of the land of Israel not be turned over to foreign sovereignty," Mr Netanyahu wrote two weeks before the May 29

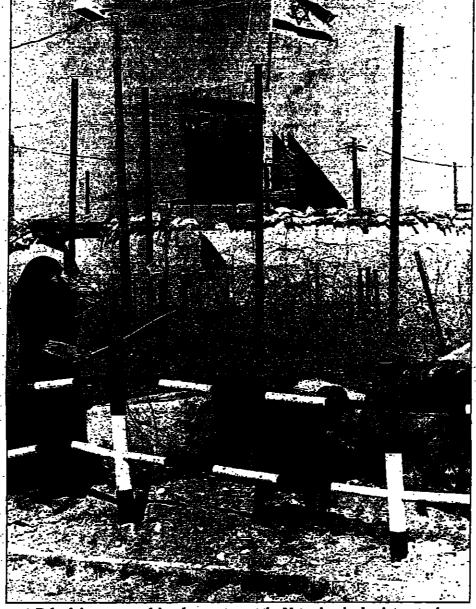
elections. Rabbi Shmuel Hefer, leader of the Habad movement based in New York, released the contents of the letter in an attempt to halt the troop

which is holy to Jews and Muslims alike. However, there seemed little chance that religious Jews would succeed in holding on to the whole of Hebron, burial place of the patriarch, Abraham, his wife Sarah and their sons. Mr Arafat told a closed

meeting of the Palestinian Legislative Council yesterday: "An agreement on Hebron could be signed on the 30th or the 31st of the month. We hope 1997 will be a good new year for the region." Mr Arafat said that two of his security chiefs today to discuss the proposed accord.

Martin Indyk, the United States Ambassador to Israel, was equally optimistic that an agreement would be signed next week. He replaced Dennis Ross, the American special envoy to the Middle East, who returned to Washington yesterday to brief President Clinton on the latest development in the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. "Ross will return on Mon-

day and hopefully we can reach the agreement soon after that," Mr Indyk said. Palestinian and Israeli negotiators met again yesterday to resolve their final differences over Hebron — the last main West Bank town still under military occupation and complicated by the presence of 400 zealous Jewish settlers who refuse to leave - and to discuss a timetable for the next



A Palestinian woman drives her goats past the Netrazam checkpoint yesterday

own "note for the record" to In the Gaza Strip, Jewish the Hebron agreement, spelling out the future obligations

Palestinian officials are expecting the accord to include a commitment from Israel to release Arab prisoners, including 35 women immates. In return. Israel is demanding that limits be placed on Palestinian police patrols near the stages in the peace process. Jewish neighbourhoods of He-Edward Abington the Ameribron. Israel also wants restriccan consul-general, said Washington would add its tions on the type of weapons Palestinian police can carry.

settlers were angry over Isra-

el's reopening of a nearby main road to Palestinians Until yesterday the road, which runs along the Mediterranean coast near the Jewish settlement of Netzarim, had been closed to Palestinian traffic since 1994.

In defiance of the Israeli military authorities, some Jewish residents from Netzarim staged a protest against the reopening of the road. Some settlers marked the event by laying a foundation stone for a new Jewish neigh-

bourhood. ☐ End of the road: Israel's public transport company announced yesterday that it was ending its bus service to Egypt for lack of interest 18 years after the two states signed a peace agreement.

The Egged Corporation was losing £540 every time a bus made the 12-hour trip from Tel Aviv to Cairo with only about ten passengers, a company spokesman said. (Reuter)

senior officials rose to five as the military Government blamed rebel student and Karen groups. Soldiers stood guard outside the Kaba Aye compound yesterday, a day after two blasts injured 18 people and shook the manmade cave holding a Buddhist relic on loan from China. (AP)

Prison for wi plane passen

New York: An unruly passen ger who became so trouble some that the pilot turned the plane round has been sentenced in America to four years in jail and fined the cost of the extra fuel (James Bone writes). Gary Lee Lougee, 40, attacked a stewardess who refused him alcohol because he seemed drunk already.

Cannibal tries to eat his cellmate

Moscow: A prisoner on death row for cannibalism was sentenced to death again by a court in Siberia for trying to eat another cellmate. Andrei Maslich, 24, sentenced to death last year, was awaiting a reply to his appeal for a

Car blast kills seven in Algiers

Algiers: Seven people were killed and 68 others injured when a car bomb went off in a working-class district of the Algerian capital yesterday. It was the second such

attack in a week, after a car bombing which killed three in the city centre on Monday, blamed on Islamic extremists at war with the militaryhacked secular regime. Most of the victims in the Hussein Dey district yester-

day were passers-by, young people and car drivers. Broken glass and tiles were strewn over a 100-yard area. The emplosion occurred not far from a paramilitary police post and a cultural centre. At east four cars caught fire and a bus was also hit. The cultural centre, inaugurated about a year ago, had a glass

facade. Security officials said 34 people were able to return to their homes after receiving medical attention.

to the state of

The Armed Islamic Group has recently reimposed a reign of terror over the Casbah, the old quarter of the city, where armed men kill people, either by shitting their throats or shooting them with machine guns, sometimes in day-

600 held over attack on Saddam son

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

ABOUT 600 people, including senior security officials, have been arrested in Iraq after the assassination attempt two weeks ago on President Saddam Hussem's eldest son and heir apparent, Uday, the country's former chief of military intelligence said yes-

His claim, regarded as plausible by Western and Arab diplomats, came as the staterun Iraqi media were ordered by the Government to glorify Uday, a reckless playboy and self-confessed killer, as a

"great survivor" and "hero of General Wafiq Samarrai, the people". Huge portraits of Saddam's intelligence chief the people". Huge portraits of the lightly bearded Uday have also begun appearing beside those of his father in the exclusive al-Mansour district of Baghdad, where he was ambushed by gummen in his car on December 12.

It is the first time since 1982 that the Iraqi leader has allowed anyone's picture other. than his own to be draped in public places, and is seen as confirmation that Saddam isgrooming the detested Uday for the succession.

until he defected to Syria in 1994, said that among those arrested were three Olympic Committee officials who were also members of the ruling Baath Party and several religious figures. Uday is chairman of the country's Olympic Committee and football feder-

"The head of Uday's office Colonel Hussam Edin, was dismissed, and a former officer of the special guard, arrested and special guard officer Abdallah al-Duri was found dead," Mr Samarrai

A young woman travelling in Uday's black Porsche at the time of the attack has also been arrested, as well as a bodyguard who was cramped into the rear seat, a senior Iraqi source said yesterday.

They suspect everyone, especially security people who knew his movements that night, but it does not seem they have got the culprits yet."

Ex-nanny sues Netanyahus for unpaid overtime 120,000 shekels (£21,500) to date," FROM REUTER



Shaw: unable to find new job

INJERUSALEM

THE Netanyahu family's disgrunded former nanny, dismissed last July after scorching soup, is suing the Israeli Prime Minister and his wife for more than £21,000 in back pay, her lawyer said yesterday.
The South African-born Tanya

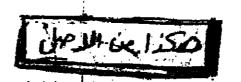
Shaw, 21, said in a petition to a Jerusalem labour court that Binyamin Netanyahu and his wife, Sara, failed to pay extra wages for overtime and work on the Sabbath during her six months of employment, as required by law. "The overtime and Sabbath wages along with interest amount to month after his election.

Moshe Zingel, for Ms Shaw, said. He said the judge at the opening hearing yesterday ordered the Netanyahus to respond to the petition within 45 days. Mr Zingel said Mrs Netanyahu would probably have to take the witness stand. He said that Ms Shaw's name had been tarnished by the affair and as a result she had been unable to obtain another job.

Ms Shaw told reporters after her dismissal in July that Mrs Netanyahu was obsessed with cleanliness and had called ber "a murderer". The scandal was on the front pages of tabloids for days, embarrassing Mr Netanyahu a



Sara Netanyahu: taken to court



The WHSmith £1 sale.



WHatever you're into, get into WHSmith

lastrais Noshu Lima e

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Blast raises fears for 103 hostages in Lima embassy

AN EXPLOSION heightened tension near the besieged Jap-anese Ambassador's residence in Lima yesterday, where 103 people are still being held hostage. The latest to be released, last night, was said to be the Guatemalan

Ambassador. The Red Cross said the explosion, heard shortly be-fore dawn yesterday, was caused by a mine laid by the Tupac Amaru rebels being detonated by an animal.

The fate of the hostages.

now facing their tenth day in captivity, was no clearer, despite a flurry of mediating efforts over the past few days. The Red Cross said its officials were talking to the rebels and continued to deliver

food and medical supplies to the hostages, thought to be suffering from worsening hy-gienic conditions and low morale. Michael Minnig, who leads the Red Cross team and has been a key mediator, would say only that "negotia-tions were still under way". On the afternoon of Christ-

mas Day his efforts paid off, with the release of a top Japanese diplomat suffering from dehydration. The Japanese Embassy's First Secretary, Kenji Hirata, was brought out in a wheelchair and driven to hospital. When rebels stormed the



Intense negotiations have won the release of only two more hostages, Gabriella Gamini reports from Lima

Japanese Ambassador's residence on the night of December 17, they had about 500 hostages at gunpoint. Within hours they released all the women and children. Over the past week they released 300 more people, including all Western diplomats whom they deemed as unimportant

They kept 105 people, mostly key Peruvian govern-ment officials and security - but two more have been freed in the past two days. Still held is Morihisa Aoki,

the Japanese Ambassador, and a number of Japanese businessmen who are important investors in Peru. Mr Hirata's release also

seemed to be the result of intervention from the Catholic Church. The Bishop of Ayacucho, Juan Luis Cipriani, became another player in the negotiations when he walked into the rebel-controlled building to say Mass on Christmas and did not emerge

Monsignor Cipriani, a close friend of President Fujimori, is believed to have delivered a message from the President to the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement guerrillas holding the hostages.

Señor Pujimori has maintained throughout the hostage crisis that he will not strike a deal until the guerrillas lay down their arms and release all the hostages. Monsignor Cipriani is said to have spent hours talking to Nestor Cerpa Cartolini, alias "Comandante Evaristo", the rebels' leader.

President Fujimori's eldest daughter and Peru's First Lady, Keiko Sophia, also appeared at the doors of the building on Christmas Day as her father's envoy. She del-wered roast turkeys, decorated with glace cherries, and called on the guerrillas to give

Her gesture undoubtedly brought some Christmas cheer to the hostages who put up signs on the windows saying: Thank you. Happy



Red Cross volunteers carry out Kenji Hirata, released on Christmas Day

Andean peasants 'are trained into suicide squads'

PERU'S anti-terrorist police claim the Lima guerrillas are part of a "suicide squad" of youths from the central Andean foothills.

Investigations have shown that the Tupac Amaru Revo-lutionary Movement, which had kept a low profile since the capture last year of its leader, Victor Polay Campos, has spent months planning its attack in hideouts near the Andean towns of Oxapampa

Andean towns of Oxapampa and Chachapoyas.

"The terrorists inside the embassy building are mostly between 16 and 20 years old and are ready to die for the cause," said a high-ranking police officer, who would not give his name.

The rebels trained youths

from poor rural communitie: in remote villages into "suicide squads" named "Comando Edgar Sánchez" -after a fallen comrade who strapped explosives to his body for a bomb attack on a bank five years ago.

The police said that they

had harboured suspicions of a Tupac Amaru resurgence but had not expected the group to be capable of such a well-planned attack. "We had an idea that they were training men in the remote Andes but we did not take them seriously and never thought they could get this far," the source

Tupac Amaru emerged in

the 1980s as a mainly urban guerrilla group raiding food factories, then taking their booty to shanty-towns sur-rounding cities. Now they have a new image. Their latest leader, Nestor Cerpa Cartolini, who claims to be a Marxist and a follower of Ernesto "Che" Guevara, the Latin American revolutionary, has rebuilt his ranks with cash accrued by kidnapping businessmen and providing protection for drug-

traffickers. There had been frequent reports in the past few months of Tupac Amaru activity in the remote northern jungle region along the Alto Huallaga rīver estuary - Peru's main cocaine-producing area.

The group's re-emergence could encourage a similar regrouping of the country's traditionally more ruthless guerrillas, Shining Path — the Maoist Sendero Luminoso. Fifty of its gunmen raided the village of Abra de Porculla, 60 miles north of Lima, on Wednesday, killing six peasants it accused of being

government informers. President Fujimori had vowed that he had "squashed" the guerrilias with the arrest of the Shining Path's founder and leader. Abimaei Guzman in 1994, and then the capture of Señor Polay.

However, his optimism has proved to be premature.

Big studios miss out in line-up for Oscars race

By Giles Whittell,

IT MUST be a miserable time for ushers. No fewer than ten new films have opened in America over the past 72 hours, including Evita, Kenneth Branagh's four-hour Hamlet, and Michael, a story about tabloid hacks bemused by John Travolta as a fully-feathered

angel.
The blizzard of releases rounds off a year of commercial triumph and critical Hollywood studios, leaving an exceptional crop of highquality "independent" films many of them at least partly British — as hot favourites for Oscars in three months' time.

The year will be remembered by accountants and action addicts as the year of space invaders and tornados. Independence Day, in which aliens destroy much of the planet including the White: House, has taken a staggering \$733 million (£441 million) worldwide so far. With Twister, Mission: Impossible, The Rock and Eraser, it leads a quintet of blockbusters that between them have earned more than \$2 billion since the

But this was also the year in which the major studios, according to this week's Variety magazine, delivered perhaps the weakest line-up of Oscar prospects since the awards began in 1927".

Only four big-budget studio films are considered serious Academy Award contenders. Evita, which broke box-office records in London last weekend, should receive at least one nomination even though not all US critics enjoyed it. Entertainment Weekly called Alan Parker's long-awaited film one of the year's five worst — "a series of sluggishly dissociated production numbers in which Madonna "erases her own charisma".

The People vs. Larry Flynt, with Woody Harrelson, on the theme of pornography. has been hailed for supporting roles by Courtney Love as a drug-addicted stripper and Edward Norton, who plays a lawver for a magazine's crippled publisher.

Daniel Day-Lewis and his fellow Briton, the director



Harrelson: film theme is pornography

Nicholas Hytner, are being talked of as Oscar candidates for their work on The Crucible, and Sony Pictures hopes Tom Cruise may have graduated in voters' estimations from heart throb to serious actor in his latest role as a sports agent in Jerry Maguire.

Otherwise, the awards field is open to less expensive but more adventurous films made largely without Hollywood's help. Chief among these are The English Patient and Shine, a period piece and a true story of interrupted ge-

nius respectively.

The English Patient, nomi-nated for seven Golden Globes, boasts vistas of Saha ran dunes and Tuscan olive groves as well as Ralph Fiennes and Kristin Scott Thomas as doomed lovers in the chaos of war. This, you realise with a gasp of joy, is what movies can do," wrote Time magazine's Richard Corliss.

Shine has been, if anything, more rapturously received. The Australian story of a pianist who suffers a nervous breakdown (despite kind guidance from a professor played by Sir John Gielgud) won the US National Board of Review's Best Film award and is regarded by many cynics as perhaps too good for an Oscar.

The same goes for Trainspotting the grimly hi-larious homage to Scottish heroin addiction, and Secrets and Lies, Mike Leigh's unwrapping of love and prejudice in working-class south



Madonna and Antonio Banderas in a scene from Evita







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The place to be is always somewhere else

here is a happy land, over the rainbow somewhere, where people go to bed on December 30 and wake up on January 2 There is no Trafalgar Square, no End of the Year Show with Angus Deayton or Hogmanay Live, or Jools's Hootenanny. And no worrying about where you are going to be when the clock strikes

As Benjamin Franklin said: In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death, taxes, and dodgy New Year's Eve parties." For he, too, knew the misery of watching that little Scots bloke in the kilt singing Donald. Where's Yer Troosers? on the Clive James show while everyone counts down from 60 and spills Freixenet Cava on the carpet. His involvement with the American War of Independence was, in fact, largely a reaction against the dull circle of New Year's Eve parties imposed on colonial America by their imperial oppressors in London.

For weeks before the year winds to its miserable close, people you hardly know — nameless office faces, postmen, greengrocers, distant cousins - all ask you the same question:

What are you doing for new year?" This is not a question to which you can answer: "No idea, mate, why don't you drop dead?" Because you are supposed to be full of seasonal cheer. You have to say: "I'm going to Brett Easton Ellis's party at the Russian Tea Room, and I'll probably end up in bed with Naomi Campbell again in some strange hotel in Nevada. Nothing much."

It is strange that people ask the question at all. In 90 per cent of cases the person thus interrogated will have been invited to one party by a very close. but extremely dull friend, to which he will show up at 11, hoping to slip away before midnight to a more interesting party, but find he is one of only three people who have shown up, and therefore have to stay until Big Ben

strikes, simply as a show of solidarity.

If he is lucky, or heartless, he will escape the dull party by 11.45 and drive furiously across town to get to the other one, but he will have written the address down wrongly, and as church bells ring in the new twelvemonth he will be tapping on the service window of a suburban petrol station in the rain, asking if there are two Delancey Streets in East Finchley, and if so, does he know which one has an old cinema.

For weeks before the year ends, strangers ask about your plans for New Year's Eve. Giles Coren

wonders why, when the event never lives up to expectations

halfway up on the left if you're coming from the kebab shop?

Or maybe he will actually make it to the second, much more interesting party, just in time, but find that it is so trendy that he doesn't actually know anyone there, and when everyone kisses each other at midnight he will have to pretend that he has lost a contact lens and crouch on all fours in a corner, pretending to look for it, so that nobody breaks off in mid-smooch to say: "Look at Nobby No Mates over there, how sad to be hanging out with someone else's friends at new year. Oi, you, what are you doing for new year 1997? Ho, ho,

nd so he will slide off to the third party, arriving a little after 2.30, to find that all his friends had in fact gone to that one, but that the police had just busted it, and it had been the best party anyone can remember: "You should have been here, Nobby, where were you?"

"Err, well I was at these two other parties."
"Cool, who was there?"

"Oh, Al Pacino, Naomi, Brett, Sanjay from EastEnders."

In the same way that Saturday night is expected to be a better night than the others, and thus has to work much harder not to disappoint, so New Year's Eve has that problem multiplied by 52, and by 365 in relation to the other days. Mathematically speaking, you have to have a 365 times better evening on December 31 than on any other evening if it is to live up to expectations.

As a result, one party is never enough. And if you try for three or four you will never be satisfied until you get to the last. For a better time is always

Hence the recent fashion for feigning

a been-there-done-that Weltschmerz with regard to the whole thing and saying: "Prunella and I are just going to spend New Year's Eve in the country with the dogs, maybe have a couple of friends round for Woo Woos and Sea Breezes and a little rotonde of songbird tempura with olive tapenade. I'd much rather be with the ones that I love than just doing the usual round of parties, poo and naughty nose powder.

These people have not been invited anywhere. And they are lying. They will come out in force in 1999 to say that the whole thing is an overhyped marketing drive, and that they will be sitting, by choice, in a deckchair at the bottom of the garden, listening to Mahler on a Walkman and drinking hot chocolate with a hint of Baileys, just as they always do.

These are not the ones who have been invited to the parties at the Pyramids, or the Empire State Building, or on Concorde or the QE2, or even at the Albert Hall. They are the ones who have been invited nowhere.

The ones with the pukka invitations are the ones who ask the terrible question, and it is precisely because they know where they are going that they ask you — they will not even listen your answer. They are only waiting to deliver theirs. You could say "slaughtering your wife and roasting her spleen with fennel seeds", and they would only nod and say "lovely", and then tell you, at length, what they're doing. Don't give them the satisfaction.

The one thing you can count on if you do manage to get out is that everyone at the party will be standing around talking about how New Year's Eve never lives up to your expectations.

It is the great thing about cliches, or at least truisms, that they are always there to fall back on, and never disappoint. Because, in truth, New Year's Eve

does not disappoint, it merely reinforces prejudices. It is always bad. Nobody can remember a good one. Christmas is all about not being as much fun as last year. New Year's Eve is all about consoling yourself that at least it is not as bad as last year. And honesty will get you everywhere.

"What are you doing for new year?" "Complaining about new year." 'Cool. Me too. Shall we go somewhere more private? I'm Naomi, by the

New Year's Eve does not disappoint, it merely reinforces prejudices. It is always bad. Nobody can remember a good one

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Similarly, I never use the

Why swearing is so boring

Obscenities have lost their force and their use crabs and confines our speech, says Louis de Bernières

Bloody's in the Bible, Bloody's in the book; if you don't believe me, take a bloody look." Ah, long gone are the innocent days when a "bloody" or a "damn" had the power to shock, and schoolchildren giggled about the naughty rhymes that they made up

about naughty words. Actually, I'm bloody well fed up with swearing, and I don't do it much any more. I once spent a year in Colombia, and when I came home I realised to my eternal regret that in all that time I had only learnt the obsceni-

ties. In case you should ever need it, you should be advised that in Colombia "Hijo de puta" becomes "Hijo 'e puta". You'll find it very useful

And if someone should invite you to go and perform a sexual act with your mother, all you have to do is say something like "I've al-

ready done it with yours, and she gave me the pox. So then I gave it to your sister. And then she gave it to your dad." Obscenities can be fun as

long as they're witty or picturesque, but in general I've fallen out of love with them. I think that they are entirely understandable when you have just hit yourself on the thumb with a hammer, or when you need to reproach the person who has just reversed into your car or

thrown a stone at your cat. Of course, much of all this is to do with parts of the body. and doesn't make sense at all. Try calling someone an asshole in Spanish; they will look at you as though you have three heads and have emerged from a

dreaded four-letter e-word as an insult, because what it

denotes can be rather nice, like chocolate cake, or a

friendly hamster. I mean, you wouldn't dream of sticking your face in someone else's and growling:
"You effing chocolate cake",
or "You friendly hamster", would you? I did once have a friend

who invented his own insults; "You Mesopotamian char-tered accountant," he would shout, or "You Frying Pan" or, simply, "You Fish". More people should do this. It shows a positively Shakespearean exuberance which is essential to the tru-

ly effective insult A friend The kind of swearing which would has become most boring is the sevenletter f-word as shout and adverb, and You the four-letter fword as universal Frying expletive. I seem to re-

member that once upon a time it was terribly liberating to break the taboo, and it might even have been a way for nice middle-class kids like me to pretend to be an authentic bit of inner-city

But in the past 30 years this speech has entirely lost its force, and I have even heard my mother say the f-word

Both in film and in daily life it has become like being hit on the head repeatedly with a foam-rubber mallet; it crabs and confines our casual speech and even our literary writing, and these days it doesn't even buy cheap street cred. Not with me, anyway.

But I still have a soft spot for middle aged Englishwomen with shotguns, who play cricket and go out shooting squirrels. I don't think that I vill ever tire of the way that they say "Oh bugger it. Oh bugger. bugger, bugger,



POP ON FRIDAY It was a very good year for boys called Gallagher or girls called Spice... but what happened to

Prince? David Sinclair looks back at 1996

Arts page 32

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'There's an energy from love which carries on'



Instead of Lady Bracknell. Lady Olivier has plumped for playing a Walt Disney nanny. And such roles are not to be scorned, she says

stage when she might be expected to give us. her Lady Bracknell, or her Mrs Malaprop, both of which she has turned down in recent years. Instead, she is being Françoise Gilot's grandmother in Surviving Picasso, and the nanny in Disney's 101 Dalmatians, playing midwife at the birth of Pongo's 15

Such roles are not to be scorned: "When you get such interesting and amusing film roles, it doesn't seem dreadfully exciting," she says, "to be in the 257th revival of

She knew

might

well end

up on

her own

The Rivals. And it's fun setting off all over the world and being extremelaughter is a rich deep brown, like

Lady Olivier has blossomed onto the screen since her husband died in 1989, playing a series of characterful matriarchs — nota-

bly Mrs Fisher in Enchanted but Joan, "whose smile had April, modelling her style on a suffragette great-aunt, which won her an Oscar nomination. She is Françoise Gilor's grand-mother in Surviving Picasso, out soon. Has Hollywood claimed her? "No, my roots are here, my family is here, my terms of reference are here. But I enjoy finding out about film, having been very much a

As a child in Scunthorpe, she acted in plays put on by her mother: she was Elizabeth Bennet to the Darcy of her brother David, later chairman of Granada. In her teens she won a drama cup, the prize being a week playing a maid with the Harry Hanson Players, "plumping cushions and dusting". Seizing her opportunity at

15, she went up to London to see Hanson, in a coat with velvet collar and a velvet beret. The waiting room was lined

Winter Sal Bargains

smoking cigarettes out of silver cases. "Mr Hanson raised his eyebrows in disbelief as I came through the door. He sat at a desk, with overflowing ashtrays. I told him I'd won his cup, and said I wanted to

"He looked at me, kindly and avuncular, pointed to the wastebaskets stuffed with letters and said: 'Go home, my dear, go home.' So I went home until I got my scholar-ship to the Old Vic Theatre School." When George Devine whisked her into the Royal Court, she starred in The Country Wife - and one night Olivier was in the audience.

'i was entranced," Olivier wrote in his Confessions of an Ac-tor, "by the Margery Pinchwife of Miss Joan Plowright, whose very name

was enough to make me think thoughts of love." stage, with his wife Vivien Leigh, and had eyes for no one more than a hint of mockery

about it". He thought he represented everything a northern lass would despise. "I was titled, self-satisfied, pompous, patronising ... But when she played his daughter in Osborne's The Entertainer, Olivier was smitten. "I realised Larry was falling in love with me when he called me Miss Wheelshare in rehearsals," she says. "He said it was

name of their company. - "My daughter found my schoolgirl diary which said 'Got letter back from LO." She had written a fan letter to Olivier after seeing him as Heathcliff. "Of course it would be a letter from his secretary, signed by him. But I didn't know that at the time."

equally agricultural." Wheelshare later became the

Her own career took a back seat as she gave Olivier what



Lady Olivier has blossomed onto the screen since her husband died in 1989, playing a series of characterful matriarchs

though he never quite managed to devote himself wholeheartedly to family life, Joan kept the home fires burning. "Doesn't every woman? Attitudes have not really changed. If a man is to achieve, someone has to step down for a bit, as long as each of you gets a turn. He was a world-famous fig-

ure, and I sensed the responsibility I had, in helping to keep his life going in an enormously important, highly stressful job. Larry didn't want us to be ships that passed in the night. "When he was running the

National, I was determined that we would not be 'actor-manager and wife'. I said I

would not act with them for the first five years, and didn't, apart from Vanya opposite Michael Redgrave." opposite But eventually she was under contract years, the National repertoire allowing her to be at home half the time.

In Saturday, Sunday, Monday she earned a Swet award — now known as an Olivier, of course — cooking a spaghetti bolognese on stage every night. "I nearly turned that part down, but they said:

You'll have to make up your mind. because tomorrow we're sending it to Rachel Roberts.' The thought that somebody else might do it suddenly made me realise what a good part it

was.' The junior Oliviers, Richard, Tamsin and Julie-Kate, are now making their own waves - Richard is directing Henry V, the opening play at the new Globe next summer but I let them do their own publicity," she firmly says. While she was nursing her husband and turning down work, he "propelled" her into accepting her first American film role, in I Love You To Death, with Kevin Kline and Keanu Reeves, "My son Richard said he would move in while I was away, and get Larry to record Shakespeare's sonnets and scenes, for an audiotape company. We asked Ian McKellen and Maggie Smith to come down: Maggie

said: 'Och I don't know, I'm very dubious, he'll go on at me about my vowels."

That Hollywood excursion snowballed into five more films requiring a strong, ma-tronly character. Miss Plowright's comfortable face and figure distinguish her from Hollywood sixtysomethings who strive to look like Joan Collins. But she keeps fit in her swimming pool in Sussex, and at health farms after each film, since on location actors eat non-stop.

According to Goldie Hawn

in The First Wives Club, there are only three roles for a female film star. Babe, dis-

trict attorney and Driving Miss Daisy." Miss Plowright did a pilot for a television sit-

com as Miss Daisy, but it was picketed by militant black

groups for "sending out the

wrong message" - so that, at

In the Channel 4 film about

the making of 101 Dalma-

tians, Miss Plowright is seen

waiting patiently in the wings

while ten pupples are coaxed

into sitting still for 20 seconds,

her face a mask of long-suffering. "We were all warned that we would have to

be patient. If the dogs got tired,

they would be taken out to

play in the fresh air; we

couldn't do that. But we re-

mained in good humour how-

"Those puppies are so trust-ing, they are anybody's for an

orange, and leap up and lick

you as if you're the love of their

life." Some critics have com-

ever boring it got.

the moment, is that.

language and get things done, while the talking humans are helpless." "One day, if good sense should prevail, Joan will make a superb director of a theatre company," Larry wrote. She does have a directing project in mind — a television documentary. She also fancies doing a Road movie with Jeanne Moreau (they met on Clothes in the Wardrobe, by Alice Thomas Ellis). "We told a television

interviewer that we would like

to do an older version of

plained that the dogs don't

talk. "But that's the whole

point the dogs talk their own

Thelma and Louise." She roars with laughter. Between film offers, she is jotting down random thoughts towards an

autobiography. When Larry was worried about where to start his book, he was told: 'Picasso said it doesn't matter portrait. You can start with the big When Gore Vidal wrote Palimpsest, he just let memories come to him as he sat in Ravello as I did with him last summer."

Having married a husband 22 years Sir Laurence and Lady Olivier with Tamsin older, she knew she might well end up on her own. "You take it into

account, and talk about it; so to an extent you are prepared. But you can't help it, if you have a great passion: it is better to have loved and lost

... And there is an energy from that love, which carries on." Her husband once quoted "artists must be selfish, it is in fact their duty" from Shaw's Man and Superman, admitting that his way of life had demanded great forbearance from his family: "What my beloved Joan has had to stand from me, has since caused me much wonderment."

At Olivier's 1989 memorial service at Westminster Abbey, where Gielgud, Guinness, Finney, Maggie Smith etc performed - in some trepidation, feeling that Olivier was listening — they could have filled the abbey five times over. This year Lady Olivier had her

usual Christmas gathering at

Small, dry and so very cool

Sherry has become the party season's absolutely essential drink

SIGN OF

THE TIMES

basement at the Globe, in the cold hours before morning, when all of a sudden I feel a sharp recognise this nudge as MN8ing from the elbow of Easy Eddy McGyver, the heppest hound on the London club scene.

'Yo, Easy!" I say, turning round and checking my image in his metal bug-

wrap Oakleys.
"Word up." he says.
"Fresh. What are you This is not so much a

question, as a final eliminator in the do-you-get-todrink-with-Easy knockout competition. And so I sweat a little. Ice Beer? I think not. He will take me for a skiing kangaroo. I don't dig a "fish" (iced tea and vodka) just now, and jelly shots are a relic of the March '95 Chechen-chic explosion — the crucial thing here is to get it right. Know what I'm

saying? board into his snow, like. and say:

by Giles Coren You're the man, let me get one for you." It is risky, but at least l am wearing a Gotcha vneck with asymmetrical orange and brown stripes. It should get me through this.

"A sherry, then," he drawls. "Dry and cold, preferably Tio Pepe." And I pull up dead on the

But Eddy is right. I have done my research in the days since then and it turns out that the onliest thing to be seen drinking this winter is cold manzanilla, in a short-stemmed sherry flute.

For sherry has undergone a revolution in the eyes of the most hip, and is cutting-edge cool. Gone is the crumbly image encap-sulated in Maggie Smith's line in A Private Function: "I'm going to throw caution to the winds and have a

Forget forever, or at least until January, the brown juice of Oxford tutorials remembered so lovingly by John Betjeman: "Balkan Sobranies in a wooden box. / The college arms upon the lid: Tokay / And Sherry in the cupboard ..." For pale sherry is back.

Poets' Corner in the abbey.

"Every year the grandchildren

light the candles and we put

flowers and holly around the

stone, and sing one of Larry's favourite carols, O Come All

Ye Faithful, to which we all

used to sing different harmo-

nies, which rarely matched."

ne night last week I and sliding down every am chilling in the gullet under 30 that knows what is good for it.

At lunchtime in the City, young traders make for the nearest tapas joint, to stand at the bar in Nicole Fahri overcoats and shout "amor y pesetas!" as they swig their fino. and gobble jamón sliced from the haunch in front of them.

"It goes with anything," one yuppie explained to me at Meson Los Barilles, in Spitalfields. "Light food or heavy. You get drunk but you don't get bloated.
That's why Spaniards have
so much fun: they get
utterly caned on this stuff at lunchtime, but don't crash fat wine-soaked lushes that used to run Britain, and who are being superseded by young thrusters like me, manzanilling our way to the top. I'll probably do half a dozen glasses and then go back to work raring io go." Albero y

Grana, in Sloane Avenue, is the place to drink night. You can't help feeling a bit swank."

clubkitten Ruth Sullivan told me. "It cleans your palate, like white wine, except that you don't have to finish the bottle when you're sick of it. Neat gin is over now, so near-frozen manzanilla is the tidiest thing to line your glass

ou get those cool glasses," she went on, "and because it's stronger than wine it doesn't lead to the water retention that softens crucial bone definition in the hours before dancing. And it gives you a pep-up zing that, these days, is associated more with illegal chemicals than fortified wine. It is the absinthe of the 1990s. The other cool thing is

that you eat sliced jamon with a cocktail stick, so you feel like a little bullfighter. That's what it is. Sherry has that combination of macho and dainty that bullfighting is all about - just like clubbing."

So when Granny offers you a sherry this new year, there is only one thing you can say: "Wicked, flygir!. Lay it on me."



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Philip Howard



■ What book is less commonplace than a diary? A commonplace book

fter the thank-you letters comes the A change over of diaries. This is the annual rite of passage that upsets even those of us who are cavalier with our daily records. The scribbles that we can still read, we can no longer understand. Engagements that a month ago were important enough to be underlined three times have quite gone. In the personal notes we are annually humiliated by having no fax numbers to enter and by having forgotten our National Insurance numbers. Names that were on the tip of the tongue in the summer have faded or become monstrously mismatched with others. Who was Ebenezer Bigg? And can this illegible scrawl be mine? And so the changing of diaries is distressing as a reminder that we are a year's march nearer to the door of the Alzheimer hotel. So this year at the end of December I made

culendarial resolutions — as usual. As usual I know the resolutions will not be kept beyond January I. In 1997, I undertake not to keep a desk diary at the office as well as an overlapping pocket diary in my right-hand trouser pocket. That way lie embarrassing double bookings and forgonen dates. Next year I will enter in the diary numbers that really matter, such as the Open Sesame number for the bank's hole in the wall, and the magic number to reverse the charges to the word-factory of The Times.

In 1997 I resolve to make the time to enter dates and names legibly, not in shorthand. No more will I make the excuse that a daily journalist has a work-span of a single day. and that tomorrow and all its tomorrows can look out for themselves. Next year, sufficient unto the day will no longer be the cock-up thereof in the efficient Howard diary.

But, of course, it ain't going to happen. Why should my 1997 diary be different from its long line of scruffy predecessors? It would be far more sensible for all of us in the scribbling business to keep an old-fashioned commonplace book. We are more interested in fine phrases and jokes than in conferences and appointments. We could preserve the fleeting bon mot or wise words as we heard them, at dinner or in speeches or on the radio. They would be a record of the passing annual chat show. And we could then recycle them in our copy.

Jock Murray, the last of the gentleman publishers, was the last person I know to keep a commonplace book. At dinners of the Literary Society he would pull out a little blue notebook from his inside jacket pocket and scribble in it in pencil. His jokes and jottings of more than 60 years have been published in time for diary-change day by his son and successor in their eponymous hing house. When Child published. Byron woke to find himself famous. And his publisher, John Murray I. woke to find himself a gentleman.

I can still hear his grandson chuckling and clicking his fingers and twiddling his spectacles with delight when he heard some of these proverbs and gobbets for the first time. The Fleet Street report: "The girl was beheaded, chopped into pieces and placed in a trunk but was not interfered with." The notice seen in a butcher's shop in Westmoreland: "John Murray, seller of tripe." The sign saying: "Harwich for the Continent" - and underneath, "Frinton for the incontinent". The notice in a Southport hotel: "Baths may be had (by arrangement) with the manageress only". And at Christmas-cracker time, "What did the bra say to the top hat? You go on ahead while I give these two a lift."

But what is encouraging for us lesser keepers and wasters of words is that Jock himself was not as organised as he may sound. His pencil marks faded over the decade, and his writing sometimes became as illegible as ours. Only a fraction of his entries in more than 40 small notebooks have proved decipherable. And Jock was sometimes as careless as a journalist with his attributions. I think that the author of his witticism about sex at the age of 93 must have been George Burns rather than "George Burney", as published. But Jock is a new year model for us. Those of us who live by the word are defined by the words of our generation. We are improvident to let the best words whistle down the wind. So I resolve to keep a commonplace book next year. But just in case, I hope that someone else as companionable as Jock is still taking down the best bits.

The Prince of Wales's charities succeed because they encourage local self-reliance, says Frank Prochaska

oes the Prince of Wales have a job, or is the sole purpose of the heir to the throne to wait upon events? Though trivial to republicans and humdrum to the press. Prince Charles's philanthropy is probably his best hope of clawing back public favour. Last year, the Prince of Wales raised more than £20 million for good causes. This is small beer compared to the social security budget, but more than four times his income from the Duchy of Cornwall. At present he is stepping up his work for the young unemployed, ethnic minorities, the homeless and the disabled through a host of institutions, but most of all through the Prince's

Trust group of charities. The Prince's Trust is a revealing royal institution. Since its foundation in 1976, it has provided grants, training or study support to more than 150,000 young people. The Prince's Youth Business Trust, now the biggest new business agency in the country outside government, has been instrumental in the creation of 30,000 companies and 60,000 jobs. (After three years, 60 per cent of the companies were still trading.) In his recent book investing with the Grand Masters, James Morton argues that Prince Charles "has no peer when it comes to his investment record. There is not a venture capital trust around today which can too his results over the last ten years." Unlike other entrepreneurs, the prince receives no dividends for his services, but as royal charitable work is arguably one of the most compelling reasons for the monarchy's survival, there are other rewards to be reaped.

With a little help from His Royal Highness

Wales assisting the young and the unemployed. Looking back on his years as Prince of Wales, the Duke of Windsor noted: "The job . . . was, first, to carry on associations with worthy causes outside politics and clothe them with the prestige of the Prince's high position: and, second, to bring the monarchy, in response to new conditions, ever nearer to the people." But when Edward VIII said, famously, "something must be done", he expected someone else to do it. Prince Charles is more assiduous than his great-uncle. He does not model himself on any past member of the Royal Family, but his outlook is strikingly similar to that of Prince Albert, who called on the rich and famous to support his various schemes of social improvement. Like Albert, Prince Charles assumes that a sense of place and good design are essential to human happiness, and that commerce and charity are essential motors of the drive for social betterment. The message that radiates from the Prince's Trust is that social problems are best remedied by personal service, local initiative and self-help.

The social philosophy of the Prince of Wales may be described as deriving

Albert. At its heart is the view that people should administer themselves as much as possible through the family, parishes and local agencies. When Prince Charles uses the word "community" it means particular people in a specific place, not a collective abstraction. (It is instructive to compare his use of the word with Tony Blair's.) He is often charged with lacking a coherent programme, but an approach to social ills that is based on local communities is bound to seem muddled to those who seek the uniform, comprehensive sol-utions of the New Jerusalem. The lack of a strategic view is perhaps not so much a problem for Prince Charles as it is for the public, which has been led by assume that if it pays its taxes it can sit back and leave the removal of social inequalities to elected officials.

Constitutional monarchy operates in the context of representative democracy. But pronouncements by the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Prince of Wales suggest that they have a high regard for the participatory democracy that is immanent in voluntary institu-tions, a regard which flows from the

monarchy and charitable bodies over the centuries. In 1990, Prince Charles spoke of the need for "volunteers" to encourage a sense of community and to defend the values of a democratic society. Royal experts have failed to notice it, but the Crown sees the volunteer and the intermediary institutions of civil society as a buffer between the individual and the State, and a safeguard against overbearing, bureaucratic government. Such assumptions underpin the Prince's Trust.

In this century, representative democracy has tended to push out the spontaneous, pluralistic democracy of voluntary bodies, with the result that citizens have become consumers of government rather than its producers. But few outside political circles now believe that social reform can be delivered by ministerial fiat. Given the decline in collectivist ideals, and recent moves by all political parties to encourage active citizenship, there are indications that the participatory democracy inherent in voluntary institutions is coming back into fashion. Though members of the Royal Family may not appreciate it, they are uniquely placed to

take advantage of this shift. With one foot in the State and the other in the charitable sector, Prince Charles in particular is in a position to influence social policy. When he writes to a minister on behalf of one of his charities, the minister must take some notice.

The Prince of Wales prefers voluntary remedies to political ones, but he recognises the need to work with government. Although anxious to be politically neutral, the Prince's Trust has been inviting Members of Parliament to see its work in action in their constituen-cies. Sensitive to public relations, it has also staged big set-piece events, such as President Chirac's visit to Glasgow and President Mandela's to Brixton. There is a danger, however, that politicians may see it as a think-tank with glamour and ideas that can be co-opted for ministerial use. Presumably, this would be anotherna to the Prince of Wales, who would not wish to see his efforts leading to more government.

Prince Charles remains sceptical about the centralising tendency of government. There is a danger in the Government's current enthusiasm for contracting out services to voluntary bodies. Many a charity, desperate for government money, is swimming into the mouth of Leviathan. Prince Charles is anxious to keep his distance. But given the record of his charitable projects and how many ministers have created 60,000 jobs? - Leviathan may soon be swimming after him.

Frank Prochaska is the author of The Welfare Monarchy (Yale).

Shakespeare in every home

You can never start too young with the

greatest poetry, and once learnt, it

is a treasure for the whole of life

mong my vast number of addlinesses, some of which have had bystanders seriously worrying, I include the practice of tearing paper. I am not quite so barmy as to sit about doing nothing but tear pieces of paper for hours on end, but when I am, say, clearing out a cupboard, and finding in it a bundle of papers which have no more use, I do get a mild pleasure from tearing the papers before I put them in sacks for the rubbish-men. This almost invariably means that very large numbers of

papers, more or less vital to my life,

have been accidentally scooped up with the useless ones, so that I spend the next month trying to remember what the pre-cious papers, now lost (Perhaps the worrying should go as far as men in white coats.) But from time to

time, I accidentally fish out a piece of paper, which for the life of me I cannot place. One of these has just popped out, and I am intrigued to know how it got there, because it has plainly been mouldering in a cupboard for two or three years. Clearly, it is from The Times, but it has no byline and is headed just "By a staff reporter". (If the writer of the article is still on the staff and sees this, would he or she please let me know, so at last I can give some credit where it

But this little bit of sleuthing means, for me at least, a wonderful vista of glory, and I am not exaggerating when I say that. For the heading of the article is "Teach the Bard to five-yearolds", and the entire article is a beautiful plea to get the immortal lines of Shakespeare into heads so young that when they grow up they find Shakespeare in them for life. And to find that you have Shakespeare in you is second only to finding Heaven.

And I should know, For at my public chool, one of the minor punishments for minor transgressions was to be given by the prefect or teacher a poem or a part of a poem and commit it to memory within a specified time; at the specified time, the transgressor had to re-peat the poem, now booklessly, and woe betide he who had not got the lines into his head in time. (You know about my magic carpet, the discovery that I had a memory so perfect that I could

recite two thousand lines of Shakespeare, or anything else for that mat-ter, without any books. Alas, poor Yorick, the magic carpet burst into flames three or four years ago, and now I have to look up everything and anything I

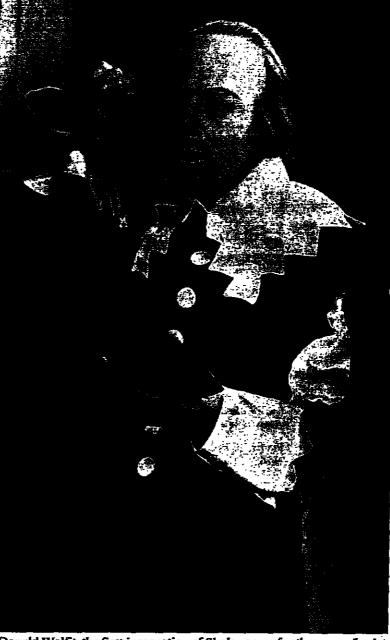
want to know.) But let me alone, and let us contem plate what that eager chunk of news-paper could come to: "Teach the Bard to five-year-olds". First, let us tackle headon the claim that if you stuff Shake-speare down a child's throat he will hate Shakespeare rather than love him when he grows up. The child who wants to run out and play rather than read Shake-

but the same child, 20 years on, will bless the parent who demanded an evening a week of the boring Shakespeare. In the Royal Society

for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (and what a magnificent name!) Shakespeare

must, of course, have a high place. And the RSA gives him one: "His output was prodigious, and his plays contain the whole range of human emotions, re-lationships, and situations. The themes are universal, encompassing every aspect of human endeavour. His language, rich in its imagery and dramatic power, moves fluently from heroic verse and lyricism to the broad humour of the street. His plays are read and performed in many languages and have been turned into ballets, operas, music scores, films and cartoons. Moreover, the acting of Shakespearean pieces by pupils is a means of exploring text and is a valid teaching approach. Seeing professional actors perform Shake-speare could also inspire curiosity and

And that is how I came first to Shakespeare on the page, and from there on. Shakespeare on the stage. Many years ago - oh, all right 49 years if you must - there was a musichall less then 100 yards from my home. I had been reading Shakespeare voraciously for some years, but I had not seen any of it on a stage, though that was not strange, because I had never then seen any play. But Donald Wolfit (yes, yes, you haven't the faintest notion of who Wolfit was) brought his ragtag and bobtail company to the Camden High



Donald Wolfit: the first incarnation of Shakespeare for the young Levin

I was, of course, dumbstruck. True, I was about 14 or 15 and as I say had been reading Shakespeare for a considerable time. Nevertheless, the transition from the page to the human being is something I have never forgotten, and never will. In one of my own books --Enthusiasms - there is a substantial chapter entirely about Shakespeare, and as I have said, there was not a day when at least half a dozen pages weren't

One of the most stirring moments of my life took place in the United

States, in Washington DC, where a very grand party was being given in the Folger Library — that mighty collection of everything in the world about Shakespeare. I had been asked to organise something for the evening, and brought over two of Britain's finest players. I wrote a massive Shakespearean trumpet, made up of some of the hundreds of phrases that we use casually which originally came from Shakespeare. Maggie Smith and Alec McCowen spake the lines wanderfully,

but my finest hour was the utter silence

as the two players rolled the words into the air and I realised that practically no one in that great hall had before realised that so many hundreds of phrases were from Shakespeare.

But come, turn the pages, and with no more ultimate purpose let me recall just few words of the millions he wrote.

How all occasions do inform against me. And spur my dull revenge Tis one thing to be tempted, Escalus, Another thing to fall.

There is a world elsewhere Perdition catch my soul But I do love theel and when I love thee

Chaos is come again. If every ducat in six thousand ducats Were in six parts and every part a ducat, I would not draw them: I would have my

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Good shepherd, tell this youth what his to

I dare do all that may become a man; Who dares do more is none.

Tis the time's plague, when madmen lead

The last of all the Romans, fare thee well. I should like to know how many homes have a copy of Shakespeare. I wish every home had at least one. I seem to have nine, not including the original seven-volume Nonesuch and the later four-volume edition, and I even have the Bowdler, which I find delightful when I get to the words he had to expunge, such as "What bastard doth not?", but even "his mother's milk". Bowdler must have had a fit when he came to

She lov'd not the savour of tar nor of pitch Yet a tailor might scratch her where er she

I also have a concordance, but alas, I now have to use a magnifying glass. Once upon a time, it is said, there was

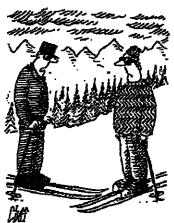
a Bible in every home. I shudder to think what the numbers must be now. And if the Bible has vanished. Shakespeare is going also. Ah, but that tiny newspaper cutting, years old, shows that Shake-speare can be digested by five-year-olds, which means that the Bard still lives and still teaches.

But don't just tell me: tell Shakespeare. When the plebs crowded the arenas for another new work of Shakespeare, few there were who could read or write. That didn't stop them, nor did the rain. How can we bring back that feeling, that longing, that belief that every day has some Shakespeare in it? There can be only one answer: start with the children.

I was lucky: I met Shakespeare early. But now children do not need to be lucky, for that mysterious but wonderful piece of paper has demonstrated that even to the youngest. Shakespeare can be not only not boring at all, but a glory and shining path for ever.

Bad Ordre

TACT WAS clearly taking a breather the other day when Sir Anthony Hopkins received one of France's highest cultural honours. He still had the green and white ribbon and eight-pointed star of the Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres round his neck when he told French journalists that he was turning down a leading



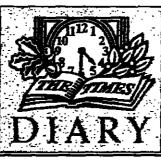
"I'm charging you with wearing a dangerous

Hugo's Les Misérables, one of the country's literary crown jewels, for the most flippant of reasons. Hopkins had just been made a

Commandeur along with James Ivory and Ismail Merchant, director and producer of his latest film. Surviving Picusso, Commandeurs are a serious bunch, and include the likes of Seamus Heaney. They are not to be confused with the Chevaliers des Arts et des Lettres. such as Sharon Stone and Sylvester Stallone, who are appointed by the French Ministry of Culture as casually as if they were municipal dog-catchers.

To the obvious dismay of the French press, however, Hopkins decided the presentation of the award was a good moment to explain why he was spurning the honour of playing Javert the police-man, who chases the escaped convict in Hugo's book. "It's too unrelenting a character." said Hopkins, 'I'm doing Diego in The Mask of Zorro instead. Much more fun."

Animal rights activists are doing their best to make life a misery for fur-friendly Anna Wintour, the



British editor of American Vogue Earlier this month, a group jumped naked into a both of fake blood right outside her offices. Worse was to come, the other day, during a lunch in the swish Four Seasons Hotel in New York, when over her shoulder and onto her plate flew a dead racoon.

Good Knight

PITY Ronnie Knight, in jail for seven years for his part in the £6 million Security Express robbery in 1983. A former husband of Barbara Windsor, Knight has written to Private Eye complaining about a cartoon. Imagine it being read out in the voice of Grouty in Porridge. He is baffled by the "association of my name with a character holding a firearm and wearing what ap-

pears to be a stocking over his head". It's an injustice, he says. "To the best of my recollection I have never sported such apparel, nor, indeed, have I ever owned or pos-sessed, still less used, a firearm of the type displayed or of any description." He asks the editor to extol the altogether more desirable attributes of Yours faithfully, R. Knight, HMP Blundeston,

Well, as for his virtues, Knight, whose years on the Costa del Crime have given him the complexion of a goatskin wallet, was convicted merely of receiving purloined



Knight: unappreciated

Christmas pudding sandwiches are the latest horror to appear in InterCity's buffet cars. On trains up to Scotland, the sandwiches - a slice of plum pudding between two slices of bread - are presented alongside the more mundane ham. cheese and tuna. The official line for staff on the train, who are as

goods in the Security Express case.

As for the years he spent swanning

around Spain evading arrest, he

would never be seen in anything

less than the very finest soft

disgusted as the travellers by the new snack, is that the Christmas pudding sandwich is in the same fine Scottish tradition as the deepfried Mars bar.

Dirty work

LARGE GIN AND ITS will be in order around Buckingham Palace in February, as a new biography of Princess Margaret scuttles out. It is the work of Theo Aronson,

the noted author of Prince Eddy and the Victorian Homosexual Underworld. The publisher is Michael O'Mara, who published Andrew Morton's books about Diana, Princess of Wales, and Alan Starkie's recent howl about Sarah Ferguson.



Princess Margaret: next for the treatment

Some idea of Aronson's take on Princess Margaret can be gauged from the newly issued press notice: Everything - the lavish hats, the long cigarette holder, the drawling voice, the brightly lipsticked mouth, the artfully dved hair, the frequently replenished whisky glass, the high heels — reinforces the image of a raffish divorce.

Through a family that has often been accused of being too county and conventional, she has swept like a breath of, if not exactly fresh, then certainly scented air." The Duke of Edinburgh is already lacing up for a long, reflective walk,

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ENDGAME IN BELGRADE

Milosevic has made one miscalculation too many

One of the most familiar rules of politics is that when leaders long accustomed to power make a mistake, they tend not to realise it until the error has become irreparable. The rule applies with particular force in police states where the warning lights that operate in democracies have been deliberately dimmed or extinguished. By sending in his riot police against the thousands of demonstrators who, for 38 days on end, have crowded the freezing streets of Belgrade with their peaceful, tenacious and courageous protests, Serbia's Slobodan Milosevic has reached the point of political rupture.

Until this bitter winter, President Milosevic had shown an uncanny ability to avoid being called to account for mistakes that, in his nine-year rule, have ruined his country. He failed in his bloody campaign for Greater Serbia and, in Serbia itself, presided over an economic collapse brought about by UN sanctions, hyperinflation and political corruption and mismanagement. Yet his party still won Serbia's legislative elections in November. He clearly expected to ride out with ease the street protests that followed his decision to annul opposition victories in municipal elections, which in terms of power were a comparatively minor matter. But that arrogant assumption of

invulnerability was one mistake too many. Under warning from the United States, the one country which he takes seriously, that severe sanctions would result if force were used, Mr Milosevic first tried the tricks that have served him before. They have not worked so well this time. He nobbled the courts, to whom the opposition had appealed to reinstate their election victories: but in Nis, Serbia's second city, the court defied him. He censored the media, particularly any broadcasts reaching outside Bel-

grade. But word has gradually spread. This week, the man who could draw crowds of a million back in 1989 tried a direct appeal. His Socialist Party boasted that it could muster half a million to a counter-rally addressed by Mr Milosevic in Belgrade and

sent out the buses to bring them in. It was a fiasco. Humiliatingly, a mere 50,000 came. Having been told that the protests involved only a tiny handful of malcontents manipulated by foreign powers, they must have been astonished to encounter 250,000 protesters. Nearly 60 people were injured, one fatally, in the clashes which, orchestrated by Milosevic henchmen and police, ensued. Mr Milosevic has used the violence, the first in nearly six weeks of markedly peaceful and even witty popular defiance of the regime, as

a pretext for deploying the riot police. European governments have joined the US in insisting that the use of force will bring renewed international isolation on Serbia. If Mr Milosevic is sure of staying in power, isolation is a price that he would be prepared to pay; it is his people, not he, that would suffer. But this time, he cannot be certain that force will yield the desired result. Students and the disinherited middle classes form the backbone of the demonstrations; but he cannot assume any more that he has the support of the workers. At the top, moreover, cracks are appearing both in the political and the military establishments.

Western governments have given far less support to Serb demands for democracy and the rule of law than they did to similar movements in Warsaw or Prague in the 1980s. If this is because they have put "stability" before principle, they should recognise that a democratic transfer of power offers the only route back to stability. Mr Milosevic's unexpected invitation to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe to report on the municipal election results could provide a safety valve. The report, due this week, is expected to find for the opposition and must be given resolute international backing. If he yields, Mr Milosevic's grip on power will never be the same. But he knows that the alternative, the forcible repression of mass dissent, is at least as risky. The system is imploding; the West can and must help to make this a democratic, not a bloody, transition.

SCOTS WHA HAE

Seven hundred years ago: Wallace began work for new Labour

Seven centuries after the banner of revolt Scottishness as their primary identity. The was raised and Scottish independence secured, the Lion of the North may be rampant again. In 1297 Sir William Wallace drove the English out of Scotland with brave heart and broad sword. In 1997 the memory of that struggle, lent romance by Hollywood's recent retelling of it, may help contemporary fighters for increased autonomy. The area of greatest division at the Independent, Scotland was a disunited

coming general election will be the constitution, not least Labour's plans to devolve power from Westminster to Edinburgh. In the year ahead the shade of Wallace, along with the spirit of many other Scots past, will be conscripted in a new battle for

Britain_ Wallace's reputation stands almost as high as the monument to him which towers over Stirling, scene of his famous victory over the Earl of Surrey in September of 1297. Braveheart played fast and loose with the facts and was perhaps as much an exercise in taking liberties as celebrating them but the film's immense popularity in Scotland reveals an important truth about the

stateless nation. Popular consciousness of Scotland's distinctiveness appears to be at a higher pitch than at almost any time this century. Scots are expressing their identity with new confidence. The fund managers in fullthroated roar at Murrayfield singing Flower of Scotland, the cinema audiences cheering the slaughter of the Sassenachs in Braveheart, and the young who find in the work of A. L. Kennedy, Irvine Welsh and Alan Warner that their lives have become literature, are all anxious to proclaim not need new buildings to flourish.

loyalties that bound Scots to Britain, the regimental, the royal and the political, have all been strained. But that is no reason, automatically, to make the leap that the Opposition makes and conclude that the new Scotland needs a new parliament.

Scotland's distinctiveness anteed, indeed underpinned, by the Union.

kingdom with few kings capable of assuring its stability. Secured in the Union it enjoyed its finest hours. The institutions which defined Scotland, the law, Church and education, were all preserved distinct. Indeed, as

sociologists such as Lindsay Paterson have pointed out, there has been a growth since the war in bodies which exist to nurture Scotland's specialness, from the original Highlands and Islands Development Board to the Scottish Arts Council.

A parliament to exercise some form of oversight upon all these bodies might seem appropriate but the Scots have not, historically, considered a parliament as central to their identity as the vitality of other civic institutions. The battles between Crown and Commons in 17th century England which gave Parliament its place as the guardian of liberties did not consume Scotland in the same way. Seen from Westminster, a separate parliament might be considered a prerequisite for nationhood, and in the changing circumstances of the late 20th century an assembly within the Union might be an appropriate answer to Scottish aspirations, but the history of Scotland shows that brave hearts and bold minds do

MONSTERS OF ROCK

Pop's dinosaurs have been rendered extinct

the end for the dinosaurs millions of years ago, now another climate change has seen off a second generation of slow-to-adapt small-brained beasts. Pop's dinosaurs, the creatures who dominated the last decade, have been overtaken by evolution and are illequipped to cope with the demands of a new mood. The taste for quirky lyrics, play-ground carchiness and laddish attitude which made Britpop the phenomenon of the mid-Nineties has seen a new generation of stars emerge and, even more dramatically. another set not so much fade, as implode. As David Sinclair reports on Page 32, Phil Collins, Sting and R. E. M may feel that they still have several great records in them but the public are content to leave them there. The pop paternalists may inspire pity but they do not deserve sympathy. As The Rolling Stones realised, rock fans should reserve that for the Devil, not the dinosaurs.

The band most possessed by demonic energy this year, even to the point of selfdestructiveness, has been Oasis. The Gallagher brothers have proved themselves bigger than Britpop in the same way as the Beatles easily transcended any Mersey beat. Part of their appeal has depended on the quality of their music, but a great deal of it has been character. They accurately reflect the hedonistic male working class culture of the climate has made them extinct too.

A dramatic alteration in the weather spelt the Nineties. More than that, however, they communicate, even to those over 30. something of the danger integral to pop in a manner which Phil Collins - the sound of Club Class — now never can.

The bands which were bracketed with Oasis to form the Britpop pack have scarcely come near the Manchester group's popularity. But the effect of the whole on the nation's taste has been greater than that of the sum of the parts on the charts. The rescuing of pop from the midatlantic accent it was assuming tallied with a broader recovery of confidence in distinctive British taste. Pop music is usually the most ephemeral, not influential, part of popular culture but as Punk foreshadowed a new individualism, so Britpop has signalled that culture is coming home.

The clearest proof that current fashions in pop may suggest a new confidence in Britain comes from the band of the moment. The Spice Girls, by making Baroness Thatcher their heroine and rejecting a single currency. reflect a new rebelliousness. The Inter-rail generation, having seen Europe, value it and the freedom to travel but seem to cherish diversity and the idiosyncratic charm of home all the more. If the Spice Girls do reflect the values of their generation, then it will not be long before other dinosaurs, the fudgers and federalists, find that a change in

TERS TO THE EDITOR

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limited liability

From Mr Piers Ashworth, QC

Sir, Those who oppose any erosion of the right to silence regularly cite two arguments — that the privilege against self-incrimination is enshrined in our common law and that the right to silence is a protection for the illiterate and inadequate. It is far from evident that either argument has any relevance to limited liability companies and their directors.

A limited liability company is an artificial creature unknown to common law. It was invented to enable merchants to engage in commercial ventures without risking their own mon-ey. Thus it can be of great benefit to commerce. But by the same token it can be a powerful vehicle for fraud.

Accordingly Parliament has permitted the creation of limited liability companies only under strict rules to ensure the probity of directors and to protect innocent members of the public who may be persuaded to invest in or to trade with them.

No one wishing to engage in busi-ness is compelled to do so under the umbrella of a limited liability company. He can set up in his own name and trade with his own money, risking all his assets: indeed most profess-

ionals are (rightly) compelled to do so.

If a person wishes to shelter behind the artificial concept of limited liability, where is the unfairness in requiring him to observe the rules? There are many who would say — with jus-tice — that those who wish to enjoy the enormous advantages of limited liability should be prepared to accept its disadvantages, including the loss of the common law privilege against self-incrimination.

There is no reason in logic why a person should be entitled to the same "human rights" when he chooses to trade in the guise of an artificial body.

Yours faithfully, PIERS ASHWORTH, 2 Harcourt Buildings, Temple, EC4. December 23

The changing Church

From Bishop Philip Goodrich Sir. I would take issue with Ruth

Gledhill on only one phrase in her otherwise welcome report, "Carey warns of growing pains" (December

Archbishops and bishops have not been "managing decline" in recent decades. They have been managing change, which every other institution in the land has been doing or ought to have been doing.

It is a positive and forward-looking thing to do and may sometimes involve closing or adapting a church to the glory of God. It is also painful, because the Church too has its back-

It would be a help if religious affairs correspondents — Ruth Gledhill is an exception — were to cross the thresholds of the churches about which they

Yours faithfully, **†PHILIP GOODRICH,** Ordis Farm, Sutton St Nicholas. Hereford and Worcester. December 19.

Last trump

From Ms Sarah Miller

Sir, Walking through Hyde Park recently I was struck by the thought of how inappropriate it is for us, now on the cusp of a new millennium, to continue to give houseroom to the vast and fusty statues of former military and naval heroes. We do seem to hang on to artefacts as well as attitudes which have long outgrown their usefulness. With the European unity issue to the fore, it is surely time to send a new and much-needed message to future generations.

I would like to propose a plan to break up these old gentlemen on their horses and clear the streets of our major towns and cities.

But let us then put them to further good use and pack their ground-down remains off to garden centres or the building trade that they may be given fresh life by providing foundations for a better and more useful future for this country.

Perhaps a selective "cull" of stone and marble politicians could take place at the same time.

Yours faithfully, SARAH MILLER, 66 Sevington Road, Hendon, NW4. December 23.

Countryside clutter

From Lord Gibson

Sir, No one would wish to prevent "tourist attractions whose survival depends upon their whereabouts being known" putting up little brown directional signs (letter, December 19). But is it necessary to have a remote country road brown-labelled as a "leisure drive"; as I found recently in north Oxfordshire? Does that not signal suburbanisation?

The Council for the Protection of Rural England's warning that the rising tide of clutter could ruin the countryside was much needed.

Yours faithfully. House of Lords.

Duties imposed by Party unity and policy on Europe

From Sir Julian Critchley, MP for Aldershot (Conservative)

Sir, For the first time in three years there are signs that the Conservative Government will enter the new year with a real chance of being returned at a spring election. In large part this is due to the Chancellor, the success of his policies and the robust way in which he has dealt with the Euro-sceptic wing of the Tory party. In a series of performances, both in and out of Parliament, he has routed his

There is a whiff of Vichy defeatism about the Redwoods, Cashes and Lamonts: they give the impression of preferring defeat to victory, being not so much interested in the return of John Major as in who should lead the

rump of the party in Opposition. Their Europhobia could still snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. Would not a period of silence on their part be

JULIAN CRITCHLEY, House of Commons. December 24.

From Mr Mark Holland

Sir, Mr Brian Haines (letter, December 16) asks a good question. Perhaps he could say who I should vote for if I don't want a federal Europe and I don't believe in a single currency? Certainly not the Referendum Party, which is spending a lot of money in order to tell people what is already abundantly clear, namely that a majority of the population don't want either. without proposing to do anything

about it. The Conservative backbencher Edward Leigh complained the other day (report, December 6) that democracy the Tory party is being frustrated. The truth is that democracy is being frustrated throughout the country if the main political parties are more concerned with "unity" in order to get re-elected than with implementing the wishes of the majority of the electorate on the single most important constitu-tional issue to be raised this century.

Yours faithfully, MARK HOLLAND, Blake Hall, Common Road. Kensworth. Dunstable, Bedfordshire. December 16.

From Lord Hardinge of Penshurst

Sir. If the House of Commons succeeds in handing over our sovereignty and independence to a bunch of European politicians it will indeed be time

Priority patients

Specialists Association

this commonsense approach. NHS trusts incur penalties if routine admissions for non-urgent sur-

come is lost and fines of up to £5,000 per case may be liable. tables are also mainly about performance with routine outpatients and

programme of waiting-list clearance.

Pioneering surgery

From Dr F. F. Cartwright

Sir, I am a little surprised that the distinguished anaesthetist Professor T. E. J. Healy, when recording the 150th anniversary of the administration of ether at a London hospital on December 21, 1846 (letter, December 19) should have mentioned the name of the surgeon, Robert Liston, but omitted the name of the most important man present, the anaesthetist. He was a chemist named Peter John Squire. Perhaps we should also honour the subject of the amputation. Frederick Churchill, a 36-year-old butler. The name of his second natient, from whom Liston removed an ingrowing toenail, is not known.

Yours faithfully, F. F. CARTWRIGHT (author, The English Pioneers of Anaesthesia, John Wright of Bristol, 1952), Flat 31, Swallowfield Park. Reading, Berkshire. December 19.

Rights in Kenya

From the High Commissioner for Kenya

Sir, If Kenyans have lost confidence in their legal system, as is claimed by the so-called African Rights organisation (report, December 13), why do members of the opposition parties continually seek settlement of their disputes through the courts?

As with any police force in the world, there may be some bad apples; but the Government of Kenya is certainly not in the business of mistreating its people — a view held by the British High Commissioner (as quoted in the African Rights report) and substantiated by an EU fact-finding mission last September.

If African Rights genuinely wished to be constructive, it would have Business letters, page 37 sought verification of the alleged

However, it is now clear that the Commons simply can't wait to surrender as much power as possible as fast as possible to the EU. This, of course,

for us to consider our constitution and the role of the House of Lords.

would never allow any power to be ta-ken from them, so it would be impos-

sible to plan a second chamber which

would require more power than the

present House of Lords can wield.

The Commons, it has been said.

without consulting the people or even letting them know what was going on until it became a fait accompli. I have a suggestion to make — simple, logical and very, very cheap. Having abolished their ancient inheritance the Commons could get on and abolish themselves. They could vest what's left of their powers in the existing House of Lords, who would handle these residual responsibilities

easily enough and with their usual

good sense, sobriety, care and good Yours etc, HARDINGE of PENSHURST, Bracken Hill. 10 Penland Road. Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex.

From Mr Nigel Axelrad

December 23.

Sir, The famous opt-out gained at Maastricht was to insulate us from the single currency if we decided not to join. It is generally accepted that the poorer and less productive areas of Europe will need increased contribution from the Social Cohesion Fund when unemployment rises as an inevitable result of the loss of exchange rate flexibility.

As a net contributor to the EU budget this must mean either that our contributions will have to increase or other funds we receive from the EU will be decreased if the existing budget has to give higher priority to "scrial cohesion". How does our opt-out protect us?

I note that Mr Major suggested that the space for the national symbol on the proposed euro banknotes was not large enough (report, December 14). This will not matter because once these notes are in circulation, intra-EU trading and travel will soon mix up the notes of varying origins. Hence the national symbol will fade into insignificance and will no doubt disappear on the next issue of notes.

Yours faithfully. NIGEL AXELRAD, Bank Farm, Carlton, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

than their clinical need predicates is

Since it is not uncommon for an

emergency or cancer case to be admit-

ted to hospital at a time when the op-

erating theatres are fully booked with

routine cases, emergencies tend to be

slotted in at the end of the day, or even

the night - not the best time for tired

staff to be attending to the seriously ill.

for a system which does not work to

the disadvantage of those who need

ROBIN LOVEDAY, President.

Number One, Kingsclere Road,

Overton, Basingstoke, Hampshire.

Hospital Consultants and

Specialists Association.

This must be wrong. We must aim

therefore strong.

prompt attention.

The motivation to give routine hospital admissions a higher priority

From the President of the Hospital Consultants and

Sir, Whilst lip service is commonly paid to the principle that NHS hospitals should prioritise patients for admission according to their clinical need, the system now works against

gery are cancelled or postponed: in-

The Patient's Charter and league inpatient admissions, and trusts can suffer financially and in star rating if there is serious interference with the

Taxing the rich

From Mr Michael J. Brewer

December 24.

Sir, Why is there such a mystery about how Labour will raise more tax revenues even if they keep income tax rates capped at 40 per cent?

I suspect they will introduce a wealth tax. At least eight EU countries already have one. I believe that when in power during the Seventies Labour published a Green Paper suggesting a wealth tax rate of up to 4 per cent per

annum on capital assets. Having read recently that there are now an estimated 100,000 millionaires in Britain, 20,000 having £10 million or more, the tax would produce a few billion pounds - and think how very popular such a tax would be with the voters.

Yours faithfully, M. J. BREWER. Oak Lodge, The Common, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. December 23.

abuses from the Kenya Government before publication of the report. So far as I am aware, no approach was

> Your correspondent also states that the West agreed "earlier this year" to release funds for balance of payments support, which had been "frozen since 1990 in the attempt to force President Moi down the road to multiparty democracy". In fact the donors agreed to restore aid flows to Kenya at their meeting in Paris in November, 1993.

Yours sincerely, MWANYENGELA NGALI, Kenya High Commission, 45 Portland Place, WI. December 16.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

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Heritage funding for historic ships

From Mr Angus Macdonald

Sir, The launch of a new national register of historic ships (report, Dec-ember 4) is good news for our maritime heritage; but a sister proposal the development of a fair system for comparing the historical merit of the ships on the register — is of even greater importance. It is a question those who allocate heritage funding have been asking maritime historians with some urgency: with only limited funds available, exactly which ships

deserve to be preserved, and why? Finding a system which can fairly assess the historical significance of an Elizabethan galleon compared to a Second World War submarine, or an Edwardian racing yacht, or a 19thcentury Scottish workboat is not easy. but the National Historic Ships Com-

mittee has had a go. The committee has proposed a points system which evaluates individual ships according to criteria such as their age, condition, degree of original fabric and scarcity as a type, as well as less obvious criteria such as their historical associations with people and events, technological sig-

nificance and aesthetic appeal. It is an exciting and well thoughtout proposal, which is probably as objective as it can be in such an emotive area and one which seems to have received general approval amongst maritime heritage groups so far. If it is adopted, it will make for a much more rational distribution of the relev-

ANGUS MACDONALD (Deputy Editor), lassic Boat, Boating Publications Ltd. Link House, Dingwall Avenue, Croydon, Surrey. December 23.

Thames bridges

From Mrs Judith Diamond

Sir, I concur fully with Sir Jonathan Mance's comments (letter, December 18) about the competition to design a bridge between Temple Gardens and London Weekend Television.

The exhibition at the Royal Academy presented the seven designs as initially submitted, and two of the seven in modified and revised form, making the voting very confusing.

There was, as Sir Jonathan said, no opportunity to vote on whether there should be a bridge on that site at all, and even if that were not at issue, no opportunity to reject all seven choices. I intend to notify the Academy that my vote for the best of a bad bunch is

not to be taken as approval. Yours faithfully, J. DIAMOND, Flat 2, 80 Fitzjohn's Avenue, NW3.

December 18. From Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi

Sir. Your correspondents have concentrated on the competition to design and build an "inhabited" Thames bridge, but have only touched on the environmental impact

I have the good fortune to live near the Thames in central London and have often enjoyed the vistas to the east or west when crossing the existing bridges or walking along the pedestrian footway on the southern bank between Hungerford and Blackfriars Bridges. The light changes depending on the weather or time of day, giving stunning views of fine buildings, skylines and cloud formations.

Why do we allow the superb feature at the centre of our capital city that is the River Thames to be desecrated by a millennium Ferris wheel on the South Bank (letters, October 28, November 4), a "habitable" bridge, or indeed a new footbridge? If more cross-ings are needed could not the tunnellers get to work?

Yours faithfully, DESMOND CASSIDI, 24 Roupell Street, SEJ.

Lack of direction

From Mr Peter Calver

December 23.

Sir, It seems that it is not only A levels that are getting easier. I notice in the December issue of Director magazine that an advertisement for the company direction programme run by the Institute of Directors informs readers that "A Certificate of Completion will be awarded to those who do not complete the accreditation process". Presumably those who do not take part in the course are entitled to a Cer-

tificate of Participation. Yours faithfully. PETER CALVER. Star Cottage, 10 Wicken Road, Newport, Essex. December 23.

The words of princes

From Professor Emeritus

M. Hammerton Sir. Is it not very strange that Prince Philip has to apologise for being sensible (letters, December 23), whilst Prince Charles does not have to apologise for being silly (letters,

Yours faithfully, M. HAMMERTON, 42 Honister Avenue, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne. December 24.

SOCIAL NEWS

- 中華教教士

THE Prince of Wales is to be the patron of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Bristol. He follows a previous Prince of Wales, Edward, who started royal patronage at the hospital in 1897.

The announcement came as plans got under way for the E22 million replacement hospital — the first purpose-built regional children's hospital in

the country. Geoffrey Williams, chairman of the United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust, said: "We are delighted that the Prince has agreed to be patron. His support will be a huge boost to patients and their families, to those involved in the project and staff who will move to the new

hospital.
"We shall, of course, invite him to see work in progress next year."

Birthdays today

Miss Anne Armstrong, American diplomat, 69; Viscount Astor, 45; Sir Gordon Brunton, former president, International Thomson Organisation, 75; Captain N.F. Crump, racehorse trainer. 86: Mr Gerard Depardieu, actor, 48; Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach, 55; Air Chief Marshal Sir Derek Hodgkinson. 79; Viscount Knutsford, 70; Miss Pat Moss, former rally driver, 62.

Professor D.H. Northcote. FRS, former Master, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. 75; Sir William Purves, banker, 65: Professor B.R. Rees, former Principal, St David's University College, Lampeter, 77; Sir Norman Reid, former director, Tate Gallery, 81; Dr E.C. Salthouse, Master, University College. Durham, 61; Lord Sterling of Plaistow, 62; Miss Janet Street-Porter. broadcaster, 50; Miss Polly Toynbee, journalist and broadcaster, 50; the Right Rev A.M.A. Turnbull, Bishop of Durham, 61; Brigadier Dame Mary Tyrwhitt, former direc-tor, WRAC, 93.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Johannes Kepler, astronomer. Weil der Stadt. Germany, 1571; Louis Pasteur. chemist and bacteriologist, Dôle, France, 1822.

poet, Tours, 1585; George Barrington, pickpocket and writer Parramatta, New South Wales, 1804; William Armstrong, Baron Armstrong, inventor. Northumberland. 1900: William Archer, journalist and dramatic critic. London, 1924; Lester Pearson, Prime Minister of Canada 1963-68, Nobel Peace laureate 1957, Ottawa, 1972; Houari Bournedienne, President of Algeria 1965-78, Algiers, 1978; Hoagy Carmichael, pianist and composer, Palm Springs, California, 1981.

Charles Darwin set sail in HM5 Beagle from Plymouth on his voyage of scientific discovery, 1831.

The first performance of J.M. Barrie's Peter Pan took place at the Duke of York's Theatre. London, 1904. The International Monetary Fund was established. Wash-

ington, 1945. The Sex Discrimination and Equal Pay Acts came into effect in Britain, 1975.



Sarah Edington, a qualified guide and the author of several National Trust cookery books, beginning the trust's Week of Christmas Walks vesterday at Southwark Cathedral, with a tour on foot of the historic parts of south London near the cathedral

Britannia Royal **Naval College**

Navai College Entry, Supply

Midshipmen J N Caple, C A

Direct Graduate Entry, 86

Adamson, DJ Alcindor, TCD

Clay, P D Green, G R Hughes,

P G Richman, P J Scoot, M

Naval College Entry. 86

Flight pilots Midshipmen T J Barker, J R

Bevan, N M Prole, C A Rex.

Direct Graduate Entry, 86

Sub Lieutenants S T Lippitt, A

Panic, A D Rose, S A Wallace

Naval College Entry. 86

Midshipmen Al Mahrezi, Al

Mulla, Al Qahtani, Al Shahi,

Kaewmanee, Mohammad

Sub Lieutenants N J Baker, R

J Burns, J G Llewellyn, N

Martin, A P Spurdle, P R

Joseph William Dickinson, of

Horsforth, Leeds, left

Nancie Larette Wingfield, of

Sunningdale, Berkshire, left

£2,121,996 net.
She left £50,000 to the British Heart
Foundation and to the Imperial
Cancer Research Fund.

Ian Walter Hewitson, of

Stanwix, Carlisle, left

LILIUS, FIFE HELHe left £250 each to lan Currothers
of Carlisle to be used to purchase a
Carlisle United season ticket to John
Alcock of Carlisle to purchase a
compact disc player and to Eddle
Molfatt of Carlisle to purchase a
satellite dish.

Desmond Hurst Williams, of

Sheffield, left £1.136,016 net.

Internationals Entry 96/2:

Noeh Mas, E A Murraine

Special Duties Course:

Suggett, A Welch.

Latest wills

£2,867,857 net.

£1,109,944 net.

Home, M J Matthew.

Flight pilots Sub Lieutenants D

Flight observers

Flight observers

Scott.

Admiral Sir Jock Slater, Chief of Naval Staff and First Sea Lord, took the salute at a passing out parade held on December 19 at Britannia Royal Naval College (Commodore A P Masterson-Smith, Royal Navy).

The following passed out: Direct Graduate Entry,

Sub Lieutenants I R Baggett, G C Birrell, A J Canale, J P Carrick, A M Denton, G B Doyle, E T Duff, G D Fitzgerald, A D Johnson, I D Kewley, J A Mansfield, J K P O'Donnell, N Palethorpe, M C M Plumb, J P Price, V L Regan, M J Sparrow, J M Stilwell, J D R Strain, R J Stuchbury, J E Ward, C W Wheeler, LJ Williams.

Navai College Entry, Scamen Midshipmen CSJ Ainslie, FJ Baber, S E Dodd, H F Frazer, D W Green, S Johnson, G K Lancaster, K D Nitsch, M R Northcote, N C Stratton, S Weaver, N S Whitwell, G M G Williams.

Direct Graduate Entry. Engineer Sub Lieutenant S J Collen, Lieutenant I D Fraser, Sub Lieutenants J R Hayton, J W

Naval College Entry, Engineer Midshipmen P Andrew, P J Buckenham. M J Healey, M B Hepplewhite, A J Leivers, 1 T

Molyneux, J R Pollard, M P Direct Graduate Entry, Sub Lieutenants K M Allsford. JA I Burnham, R Driscoll, C L. Hayes. D Jenking-Rees. F C McGill, C S Olivant, M W

Ray, M E Robb.

University news

Queen's University. Belfast Queen's University has won research funding of £6.4 million. The latest grains have come from several sources, including the Department of Economic Development's Industrial Research and Technology Unit Research and Technology Unit (IRTU), other government depart-ments, industry, charities, research councils and the European Union. The largest grant, £1.4 million from the IRTU, has been awarded to Professor Raymond Murphy in the Department of Chemical Engineer-ing to fund a polymer processing research centre.

Funding totalling El million has been won by the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, while the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Science has been awarded grants of £670,000.

Recent grants include:

Aericulture ace aric Science: Dr S I Heaney, Dr G J ennedy, £49,000, Department of culture for Northern Ireland

R GOWEL LOS, USO OVER THEY SEASON MINISTRY of Agriculture. Fisheries and Food, Joint nurient study phase II Jonus II).

Crop and Animal Production: Professor F J Gordon, £222,422 Over Two years, European Union (Nephrops Biomass in the Irish Sea). two years, European Union (Neph-rops Blomass in the Irish Sea).
Food Science: Dr E Stewar, £19,890.
Mulstry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food (Detection of Irradiated Good for a MAFF surveillance caercise).
School of Blology and Blochemistry DrS I Cosby, £27,990 over three years, Multiple Sciencis Society (Northern Ireland). (Virus Induction of auto-immune disease in the central nervous system).
School of Blomedical Science Professor N G McKlale, £91,632 over three years. Burish Heart Foundation. [Morphological and electrical basis of passension in sheep lymphatic vessels], the Science of the Science of the Science of Science of

pacemaking in sheep lymphatic vessels.

School of the Built Environment.
Environment Planzing: Professor J. Hendry, £100,000 over one year. Department of Environment foorthern Irelandi. (Role of area plans within the planning system).

Civil Engineering: Professor T. J. T. Whitaker. £28,435 over three years. European Union. (Probablistic design tools for vertical breakwarrs).

School of Chemistry

Dr. B. J. Walker. £40,100 over one year. Monstamo. (Synthesis of formylphosphonates and related compounds); Professor R. Seddon. £105,855 over raw years. Engineering and Physical Science Research Council — ROPA. (Besign of movel room-temperature fonic floquids); Professor M. Ackervy, £47,342 over one year, ROPA (ROPA generation of flowel proteinase inhibitors by solid-phase combinatorial approaches). School of Clinical Medicine

Clinical Biochemistry: Dr. I. S. Young.

Schools of Limical Medicine
Clinical Biochemistry: Dr I S Young,
£12,500. (An authoridam capacity of
HDL in patients at high risk of

or P.J. Lamey, £162,506, Glane. (Study to evaluate of Zovers); £29,973 over

Dr C E Tindall, £378.556 over three years, IRTU (Start) (Design, control and operation of embedded generayears, IRTU (Start) (Design, control and operation of embedded generation systems).

Professor G W irwin, 1249,278 over three years IRTU (Start) (Plant and expertise modelling for quality control). i).
or V F Fusco, £70,550 over two
Engineering and Physical
e Research Council. (Electrostic field solution of noncitation of many

bomogenuos compuning networks).

Dr G Dodds, E197.417 over three years, IRTU RTD Networking Programme. (Highly Interactive CAD/CAM mois for competitive maingrance, graining and concurrent engineering). Engineering Engineering: Professor S Aeronautical Engineering: Professor S R Raghuranthan. Dr. M. A. Gillan. £18,000 over three years, Short Brothers, Fire most ancelle heading. Chemical Engineering: Professor W R. Mumphy. £78,000 over 190 years. Department of Education for Nor-thern Ireland. Universities Marketing. Project.

Dr J O Jamison, 641,450 over three months, Management Executive, Financial Management Directorate, Utophy and Park

Dr K S Bryett (Inst of Criminology £15,585,98, Northern freiand Offic Delays in prosecuting on indictmer between committed and charge.

Science
Agnanic Science: Professor C E Gibson,
Dr M Service, E247, 192 over two years,
European Union: Interney/Department of the Environment (Northern
treiand), Trophic sames of Loughs
Royle and Carlingtord.
School of the Built Environment
Chill Engineering: Dr P. A. M. Bacher. ccipion oi use sum anvironment Chil Engineering Dr P A M Basher, £159,603 over three years. Engin-eering and Physical Science Research Council, Development and validation of an in-situ accelerated ionic migration less. inigration testes Medicine Orthogondic Surgery: Dr W G Remohan, £72.630 over three years, Zingther Co UK. Continuation of ISU

Audit.
School of Mathematics and Physics
Part P G Burke.

School of Bransenatics and Physics
Professors K L Bell, P G Burke,
Hibbert, F P Keenan, A E Kingstor
1455,778 over four years, Particl
Physics and Astronomy Researc
Council, Programme of Alunti
Physics for Astrophysics at QUB 1996
2000. School of Mechanical and Process Engineering Engiasering
Aeronautical Engineering: Professor S
Raghunathan, E31,350 over one year
Raghunathan, E31,350 over one year
Research Council - ROPA, Passive
Boundary Layer - Vortex Control for
Drag Reduction and Buffet Alle
visition. Institute of Continuing Education Dr R Mark, E44,700 over eig months, Department of the Envi onment (Notthern Ireland) - Makin Bettast Work, Evaluation of MSW Impact on Further Education Provision in North and War

Reopened waterway is now awash with tourists

By Nicholas Watt, chief ireland correspondent

A 36-mile waterway which links the picturesque Erne Lakeland in Northern Ireland with the mighty River Shannon in the Republic has become one of the country's most popular tourist attractions since it opened two years ago.

Almost 4,000 hoats plied their way along the canal last year from the small loughs of Co Cavan to the labyrinth of

waterways and islands which make up the Erne waterway across the border in Co Germanagh. The number of boats last year was 30 per cent more than in 1994, the year the canal opened, according to a survey commissioned by the Northern and Southern Irish

tourist boards. Restaurants and cases have sprung up along the route of the waterway and new marinas have been built to cope with the tourists. The Shannon-Erne water-

way restored the Ballinamore-Bailyconnell canal in Co Leitrim and Co Cavan which had barely been used after it was completed in 1860. The project, which was funded jointly by the British and Irish Government and the International Fund for Ireland; enables boats to sail some 250 miles from Limerick to Bel-

leek, Co Fermanagh, which is the longest stretch of pleasure navigation in Europe. More than a third of the holidaymakers (35 per cent) who hired boats on the waterway last year came from the Irish Republic, according to

the survey. But it has provd very popular with other na-tionalities. Germans made up 25 per cent of visitors last year and a new air charter service from Switzerland to Knock airport, Co Mayo, will bring thousands of tourists to the area. The survey estimated that tourists spent £3.6 million last year on fees for cruisers. food and entertainment.

Willie McCarter, chairman of the International Fund for Ireland, which contributed £5.8 million to the £30 million cost of the canal, welcomed the findings of the report. He said: "In the two years since it began operating, the Shannon-Eme waterway has surpassed even the most optimistic original projections for usage. The waterway was a flagship enterprise for the International Fund and one which has gone a long way towards realising our vision for the economic development of disadvantaged border counties."

Businesses catering for the influx of tourists along the new canal have flourished in the past two years. The Emerald Star Marina in Belturbet, Co Cavan, has tripled in size. In 1994 it had 15 berths; it now has 57 places.

Gerry O'Rourke, manager of the marina, said: "We could not have imagined the expan-, sion when the canal opened. We didn't realise we were going to grow so quickly." The marina has created ten fulltime jobs, with a further 40 jobs during the season from

A warren of meaning in the simple rabbit

By Norman Hammond, archaeology correspondent

byword for fecundity and li-cence, from the Unicorn Tapestries in Paris to the Flopsy Bunnies of Beatrix Potter. They have not, until now, been seen as symbols of the vulnerable Christian soul.

A new study of a noted English Renaissance building, Triangular Lodge at Rushton, Northamptonshire, suggests that rabbits had a sacred iconogra hv. and one which restated the importance of the Mass in a country newly Protestant, Moreover, the construction of warrens for breeding rabbits for food in monasteries had a theological as well as a culinary aspect.

The vulnerability of the rabbit was pointed out by St Augustine, who, noting that "Man is a rabbit in that which he fears", said also that "the Rock (the Church) is a refuge for hedgehogs and rabbits, because it is decreed that the Lord is the refuge of the meek". David and Margarita Stocker suggest that the "pil-low mounds" of monasteries were warrens that also symbolised the Rock of the Church.

Writing in World Archaeology, they note the Elizabethan satirical equation of rabbits with the Roman Catholic Mass, a thrust which, they "assumes its readers prior knowledge of the rabbit's salvatory symbolism". That symbolism was used by Sir

RABBITS have long been a Thomas Tresham, a noted recusant, in creating the Triangular Lodge between 1594 and 1597, they say. The lodge is famed for its Trinitarian symbolism - everything is in threes, from the triangular ground plan to the three gables on each side and the

three trefoil windows below. The Stockers suggest that, far from being a mere farmmanager's residence, the -another garden building in the same spirit as the belvederes, banqueting houses and stands with which Renaissance parks were equipped, intended for elaborate excursions from the main house by the owner and his guests". More controversially, they suggest that the small round window-openings are symbolic rabbit-holes, placing those in the house within a human burrow.

In its turn, the rabbit waiting in its warren "is the corporeal awaiting eternal life, like human corpses in a catacomb," the authors suggest. "It has a double symbolic meaning, both sacred and profane. By taking evidence from literary, visual and manuscript sources as well as from field monuments, a case can be made that rabbits, and pillow mounds, not only had a value in functional and status terms, but a more specific meaning as symbols of the salvation of mankind through the husbandry of the Church."

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PERSONAL COLUMN

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our love mas occurses much joy and encourage ment; through you God's people have been nuch politiment verse 7 BIRTHS St.JOHE - On 23rd of November to Manuela and Oliver, a son, Henry, a butliter for Charles. DEATHS AGNEW - On December 20th 1996 poscotally after a short illness, Andrew, aged 82. Very dear husband of loy and loving and greatly loved father, father-in-law and grandfather. Faneral at St. Denys' Church, Rotherfield on Friday January 3rd at 2.15pm. Followed by private Cremetton. Family flavers only. Donavions if desired for Youth Clube UK clo Paul Byyouth Faneral Services. Crowborough (01892)

THE

NEW YEAR PERIOD Deadlines & Opening Times Birth, Marriage & Death Notices.

For notices to appear on Wednesday January 1st and Thursday January 2nd the deadline is Tuesday December 31st at 12 noon. Wednesday January 1st Office Closed. Normal hours Thursday January 2nd. 全0171 680 6880

DEATHS APLEY. On December 20th 1996, in hospital, Alan Graham Apley F.E.C.S. of West Byfnet, aged 82 years. Adored husband of Violet, Fether of Elchard and Mary, Step-father of David and Mark, and a dear grandfather. Funeral service on Friday January 3rd 1997 at St john's Church, West Byfnet at 12 woon, to be followed by interment in Brookwood Cometery. Flowers or inquiries to G. Boutell & Son. Tel: 01932 245037.

CURTUE- Owes John aged 70
years. On 21st December
1996. Peacefully in hospital.
Deatry loved husbands of
Jean and loving father of
Andrew, and Gregory and
Julia. Loving grandfather of
Victoria, Beverly, Michael.
Dominic, Christopher, and
Joel. Requient Mass at St
Vincent de Paul Church.
Queens Read, Rull on
Tessday 31st December at
1,000ps, followed by pursue
cremation. Family flowers
only please. Domations in
memodum mity be made to only please. Donations is memorium may be made to The British Diabetic Association of The Strake Association of The Strake Association. Enquiries to E.W. Brown & Son Ltd Funeral Directors, 433, Severly Road, Hull. Tel: 01482 342214. curren - Sylvin Maggie, un 22nd Documber, aged 93 years, died pescarally in the kind care of Ambleton Nursing Home, widow of Tom, beloved higher of Geoffrey and Mary, much Loved Grandmother and Grant Grandmother. Service

Great Geamingther, Service at St. Mary Magdalene, Stoke hishop, Beistol, 12 noost on Monday 6th January followed by cremation at Canford Smills (Joseph only nominary of the James of Collowed by Cremation at Canford Fundly flowers only but donations if desired may be sant to Bristol Age Care, C/O B. Davies & Son Funeral Directors, 381 Georgester Road, Rogfield, Bristol, 837 STR. Tal 01179 424639

GLEW - Roland (Son) on 22hd December 1996, aged 72 years, at Mychest, Survey, Formerly of Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne. Representative for Lever Bros until 1984. Dearly loved husband of Mary and father of Enid and Gill. Funeral 12 noon, 31st December, at the Park Crematorium, Aldershot, Donations in lieu of Rowers.

Michael and Geundfather of fred and Racipal Femeral at Raycombe Crematorium, Earth on Tuesday, 31st December 1996 at 4,00pm. Saquiries to Menninga Fungsal Directors on 01225 637955. Family flowers only, Donstions if desired to League of Felands, Funjury Stouttal, Tuninings Wells, Kent. Personal Messages to lase on 01225 42567. Jame on 01225 422647,

December 22nd 1970, mon-Tony Mainwaring Surton, Irish Gonglis (Bet'd), Mach loved father and grandisther Puseral private. grandither. Puretra participations of flowers please but fonations, if desired, to the Army Benevolant fund. A memorial service will be service.

mittell. - On December 22nd 1996. Peacefully in hospital james Izm Mitchell MC. Aged 72 years. Much loved husband of Judy, decreet Father of Jane. Bridges and Jucken Gendlather. Private issuity Funeral followed by a service of thankspiring at Funeral followed by a service of thembagings at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Harringworth, on Thursday 2nd jammary at 2.00pm. No flowers by request, donations for Kettering Coronary Care Endowment to, J Stamp & Sons Funeral Directors, Marker Harborough, Lelcassandre, LEIG SAK.

ACCULD - Addema, peacefully on 21 December, after a long, havely-boune filmes. Loving and greatly-loved wite of Chatles, and devoted mother of Zoe, Alexander and Oliver. Pursual at the church of St Mary the Virgle, Shipton under Weltwood, on Tuesday 31 December zt 12 moon. Flowers and/or donations to Imperial Cancer Research Pund of St. Taylor and Son, 21 Cothest Ed., Carteston, Ozan, UK18 3145.

STRANGE- Hilen, post away on December 20th 1996, aged 87. Will be sadly missed by son Bernand, distphirt-in-law Marths, and marrin, and comments of the co

6 Church Road, Thams, Oxfordshire, pescrittly on Sunday morning 22nd Documber. The billed shall receive their sight, Funcal, St. Marr's, Thams, 11am. Priday 3rd lanuary. Pauliy flowers only, Docations, & desired, for Oxpora/pothery for the billed, care of F.J. Wilson, Creezway, Haddenhaus, Aylesbury, Buchingtomashire, HP17 881, Doctringtomashire, HP17 881, PP17 881,

Where - Ejika Katherine (nie Repolds) Widow of Cyril Win Hall, thed pencetally on December 20th, aged 101. Mach loved Mother of Dwist Christopher and Richard, Grandmother and Great Gezatimother, Princel at R. Pater's Church, Selsey, Jamen, at 230pm December 30th. Family Howers only, densitions to the Musicians Benevolent Pand.

Lacra IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE ARECUM - Robert Warren 27/12/94, Sadly missed. Loved and remembered by your family siverys.

BIRTHDAYS DOM Many happy returns. At my love, all my life, with all m heart. Enthin. WANTED MR. COATS, for costs year Smeat least policy polic, 62 cognition/details for No 1734

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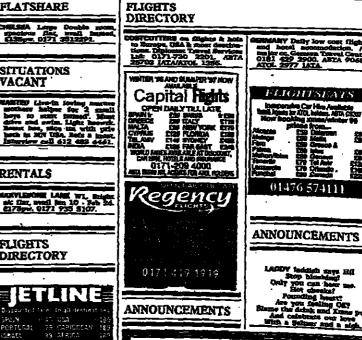
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me the delak and Kunse;
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and Thursday January 2
should be received in writing by
5pm on Friday December 27. ALL NOTICES ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION Tel: 0171 782 7347 Fax: 0171 782 7725

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OBITUARIES

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and attacker.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SAMUEL DERRY

Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Derry, DSO, MC, organiser of wartime escapes from Italy by Allied servicemen, died at Newark, Nottinghamshire, on December 3 aged 82. He was born on April 10, 1914.

hrough his initiative, courage and brilliance as an organiser. Sam Derry ensured the passage to freedom of several thousands of British and American soldiers who were stranded in the Italian countryside after escaping from German captivity in the confused conditions reigning in the country during the Second World War. Operated from within the Vatican itself, thanks to the help of a friendly Irish priest, his Rome escape line became famous even within its relatively short life, defying German efforts to locate its source and destroy its organisation.

His own wartime experiences gave him a foreknowledge of some of the problems involved. In the Western Desert of North Africa in 1942 he had been captured by a German unit, but escaped by leaping into a ravine under rifle fire. He then made his way over 20 miles of arid terrain back to British Eighth Army positions.

Ironically, he was recaptured five months later by the same German unit, and this time there was to be no quick escape. After being shipped to Italy, he was imprisoned for a year and then put on a train for Germany. But he gave his guards the slip, jumped off the moving train in daylight between

Tivoli and Rome and went into hiding. He was helped by an Italian peasant, who hid him under a cartload of cabbages and took him to safety. He was next guided to 47 Allied escapers who were living in conditions of extreme hardship in a nearby village, and took over their welfare. He contacted the Vatican, who sent money

to ease the plight of his adopted men. When the Germans occupied the area, he travelled to Rome at great personal risk. He contacted an Irish priest, Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty, and was harboured in the diplomatic backwater of the Vatican, at the same time arranging for the organisation of the welfare of the original 47 men.



command of a small underground network which he rapidly expanded, arranging the escape of 4,000 Allied servicemen in the space of eight. months. Safe houses, food, clothes, supplies and money were procured for ex-prisoners in and near Rome, and through agents similar arrangements were made for thousands of Allied escapers hiding in the countryside.

in the course of his work, Derry sometimes left the sanctuary of the Vatican, wearing an ill-fitting blue suit lent by the British Minister to the Holy See, Sir Francis D'Arcy Godolphin Osborne. When travelling on trams he always pretended to doze, thus concealing his inability to understand or speak Italian. The Germans learnt about Meanwhile, in the Vatican he took Derry's organisation in January 1944 balanced judgment." Sam Ironmonger Derry was born in

of brilliant organising abilities, unlim-

ited initiative, great tact and a sure and

Newark, Noninghamshire, and educated at the local Magnus Grammar School. At 22 he was commissioned in the Territorial Army. Sent to France with the British Expeditionary Force on the outbreak of war, he later took part in the evacuation of Dunkirk. He was next posted to the Middle East, serving in Syria and Iraq. During the Iraqi rebellion in 1941, he joined up with Kingcol, one of the forces that regained the airbase at Habbaniya and entered Baghdad.

As a major in the 1st Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, he subsequently fought in the Western Desert, where he won an immediate award of the Military Cross in an action in which seven of 28 opposing ranks were knocked out near Sidi Omar.

Captured for the second time near Mersah Matruh in June 1942, Derry was taken to Italy and imprisoned at Chieti in the Abruzzo region. For six months in 1943 he was in charge of the escape committee and organised the construction of four tunnels through which a steady stream of men found freedom, before his own second escape, from a Rome-bound train en route to what was intended to be his final incarceration in a German prison

camp.

After the liberation of Rome in 1944, Derry had an audience with Pope Pius XII, who remained unaware that the young officer had been his guest in the Vatican for many months. His experiences were described in his book The Rome Escape Line (1960), and as a result he was the subject of a This is

Your Life programme in 1963. Derry was a man of great presence and with a warm and compassionate nature. After the war he rejoined the family firm of heating engineers and devoted much time to civic affairs in Newark. He was a magistrate, a town councillor and tireless organiser for hospitals, the Royal British Legion and many charities. He had been a Deputy Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire since

He is survived by his wife, Nancy. whom he married in 1939, and by four sons and a daughter.

TONY WILMOT

Tony Wilmot. Permanent Secretary in Ghana and founding Principal of the first postgraduate theological college in Africa, died on December 14 aged 81, He was born on June 24, 1915.

TONY WILMOT had a distinguished and wide-ranging career in Africa, entering the Colonial Service straight from university. As assistant district commissioner for Zambia from 1938 to 1940, he developed such a facility in Chibemba that it was said his accent was indistinguishable from that of a native speaker. He was appointed senior cipher officer to the 11th African Division in the East Africa Campaign, reaching the rank of lieutenant-colonel and being mentioned in dispatches. After the fall of Addis Ababa, he became Secretary to the Government of British

Somaliland at the age of 29. Wilmot spent nine years in the Gold Coast (now Ghana), becoming Permanent Secre-tary in 1954. This period saw the completion of the Volta Dam Project and of Tema Harbour under his guidance. Throughout this time, he

displayed a strong sense of identity with the indigenous population, preferring to travel some distance to church instead of joining the local congregation which - typical of those days - was for Europeans only". When visiting his wife in hospital after their first set of twins was born (another was to be born later) he was caught up in riots in Accra and narrowly escaped with his life. Recognising him, a local church leader rushed from his home, and pleaded with the crowd to leave him as

he was "a good man". Anthony Talbot de Burgh Wilmot was born in Shoreham, Kent, and educated at Tonbridge School, then at St Edmund Hall, Oxford, where



he read English. In 1938 he gained a hockey Blue. He also served on the Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union (OICCU) executive. Never losing interest in student life, and at a time of unprecedented growth among Christian groups in African universities, he was the moving spirit in setting up the Pan-African Fellowship of Evangelical

Students.

He was a man of great energy, and he would always look at things as they were and then at what could be. That trait was evident on two levels: in the role he played in the political and economic development of West Africa, and in the way he identified potential in young people, and built on it. One such young man was Emeka Anyaoku, whom he recruited as an undergraduate in Ibadan University, and who rose to Secretary-General of the Commonwealth.

Wilmot joined the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) in 1956 and, after a year in Singapore, was appointed West African regional controller. A major aspect of his job was to encourage Western business to go into countries before they became independent, and he travelled widely. After his spell with the sons and two daughters.

CDC he acted as a "company doctor", visiting businesses in several countries, then became managing director of a large

West African conglomerate. But his interests stretched beyond the political and economic, and under the inspiration of Byang Kato, a leading Nigerian Christian, one of his great hopes was to see postgraduate theological training carried out on the African continent. Postgraduates in theology at that time had to go to the West. He wanted African pastors trained to meet the specific needs of African congregations, and qualified to teach the Bible accurately. Nairobi seemed the best location for this and he sought property near the city, eventu-ally finding some land in Karen (named after Karen

Blixen of Out of Africa). He went to the United States in 1979 to raise \$200,000 for 18 acres on which there then stood just three chicken runs and a dogfood factory. The Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology was opened in 1983 with four students under a Zimbabwean Dean, and with Wilmot as Principal. It has now trained some 200 pastors and theolog-

ical teachers.
Throughout all his years in Africa, he maintained a close link with the Evangelical Church of St Nicholas, Sevenoaks, Kent. He also played a major role in an ambitious building project which was the first of its kind anywhere in the world — to dig under a medieval church in order to provide needed extra space. The cost was over £2 million. almost entirely raised within the congregation. Wilmot's business acumen, permeated by his faith, drove the project through to completion in 1995. He married in 1946 and

leaves his widow Eve, for 50 years his closest companion and constant support. five

DAN FLAVIN

Dan Flavin, American sculptor, died as a result of diabetes on November 30 aged 63. He was born on April 1, 1933.

central figures of the Minimalist movement that rose to prominence in America in the 1960s, and which has since

wide. In one sense he was perhaps the most Minimalist of all in that, since the early Sixties, he stuck to the same, simple medium: standard neon tubes - sometimes coloured, often as not plain white

become a staple of art collections and museums world-cians and engineers, his work he was he could just go to a

This was the point rather sardonically argued by the artist and critic Joseph Kosuth in his seminal essay, Art after Philosophy, in 1969: "When - and nothing else. And since Flavin usually had these stan- somebody 'buys' a Flavin, he

might appear to be more about an artistic concept than a physical entity or even effect. He isn't buying anything. He is subsidising Flavin's activity as an artist."

but, despite efforts to thwart his

activities, he continued to operate

successfully until the Allies entered

His wife had learnt that he was alive

and in Rome when a tiny photograph was snauggled to her in England at

Christmas 1943. It was a picture of her

husband, with the cupola of St Peter's

Derry was awarded the DSO in

1944. The citation, referring to the

Rome escape line, said: "The secret and

perilous nature of the organisation, the

difficulty of establishing and maintain-

ing contact with agents and escapers,

the co-ordination of the efforts of

representatives of the United Nations

on behalf of the compatriots called for a

leader endowed with the rare qualities

Rome in June that year.

towering behind him.

In fact, Flavin's pieces were real experiences. They shared the theatricality of much Mini-

"light show", they did make subtle and effective use of the power of light to alter the nature of a given space. Glowing in rows, propped in corners or aligned like organ pipes, they could enchant or move as well as heighten the beholder's sense of his sur-

roundings. Flavin was paintmal art and, if not a vulgar ing with disembodied colour. And while he never sought to disguise the non-aesthetic aspects of his objects (the metal supports and clips), or to hide the sources of his effects, nor did he shut out the inevitable spiritual associations of his material. Flavin himself described the general process with characteristic matter-offactness: "We are pressing downward to no art - a neutral pleasure of seeing,

> Unlike his chosen medium, Dan Flavin was a thick-set,

known to everyone."

character. He was born in New York, to an Irish Catholic truant officer and a mother whom he would later describe as corpulent and obtuse. A religious upbringing and a spell as an altar boy made him familiar with the theatre of light and shadow that is the Mass, and for a while Flavin considered training at a seminary. Instead, he attended the New School of Social Research, where he was strongly influenced by the teaching of Hans Hoffmann. This was the late 1950s, and his first painterly efforts came in on the tail end of Abstract Expressionism. Soon, however, he began adding bits of text from the Bible or the works of James

doned traditional media altogether and made monochrome reliefs containing

Joyce, Eventually, he ahan-

gruff and sometimes caustic coloured electric light bulbs, cusi, and there was even one to which he called "icons". The first neon works date back to 1963, and the first exhibitions to 1964. Flavin's works were shown alongside

> Morris and Carl Andre: thus Minimalism was born. Years later, however, Flavin's experiments with different qualities spatial arrangements would lead some critics to describe his compositions in terms of symphonies or sonatas. The artist himself preferred to describe them as homages: the Monument (1964) and Homage (1966) to Vladimir Tatlin consist of rows of white strips on the ground, their light cool and their arrangement evoking early Soviet architecture, or Constructivism itself. But

other homages were ad-

dressed to Matisse and Bran-

those by Donald Judd, Robert

Flavin's dog.

An established figure on the

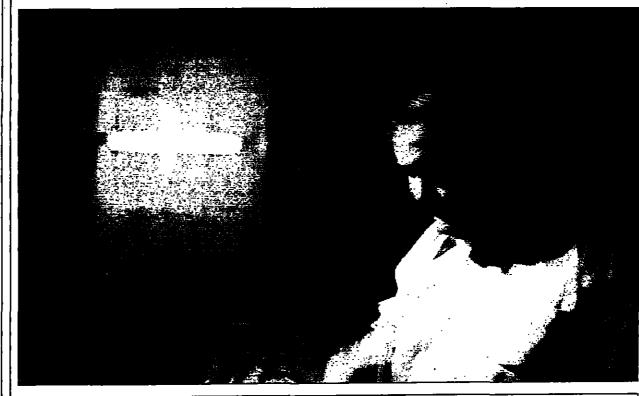
New York art scene, Flavin was consecrated with an almost flambovant show at the Guggenheim in 1992, taking advantage of the event to celebrate his second marriage to Tracy Harris. In Europe (if not in England), his work Biumo collection (Italy), and he recently designed an arrangement of red and blue neons for the outside of the Hamburger Bahnhof. which now houses the National Gallery of Berlin.

At the time of his death he was working on a giant installation for the Chinati Foundation set up in Marfa, Texas. It was to consist of pink, green, yellow and blue neon lines to be distributed along six corridors built in a U-shape.

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The Samaritans



CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS.

Yesterday, long regarded as the national holyday of the year, was more generally observed as a day of recreation than any of its become, by an Act of the late Session, a statute holyday. The first of these, our readers will recollect, was on the first Monday in August, when the beauty of the weather entranced the pleasures of a new statute holyday and a glorious summer day invited all those who were enabled to devote themselves to recreation to take their pleasure in the country, amid green fields and verdant foliage, where, escaping from the noxious air of an overcrowding metropolis, they recruited and invigorated their bodies with fresh and pure country air. Judging from yesterday, we may safely predicate that future statute holydays will be regarded to all intents and purposes as close holydays. A fine Christmas-day was succeeded by a dampish evening, followed by a morning of threatment followed by a morning of threatening aspect, which ushered in a more uninviting and depressing holyday than it has been our fortune of late to observe. It must have been a question of serious debate with many how to spend the day which the generality of the

British public loves to devote to joility and fun,

ON THIS DAY

December 27, 1871 生化作剂建

Following this article long reviews were given of Tom Thumb at Drury Lane and Bluebeard at Covent Garden.

and when the thoughts of every one are directed to leisure and enjoyment. The shops in all the thoroughfares of the metropolis were almost universally closed, only an occasional one being observed open here and there. The streets were during the whole of the day a most desolate appearance, and, as a slight downfall commenced early in the morning and continued with but little intermission during the day, the aspect of the London thoroughfares was cheerless in the extreme. Owing to the badness of the weather there was little or no chance of out-door exercise or amusement, and so the greater part had to entertainments which exist in London. The

different exhibitions, &c, were crowded to a unusual degree, and in many of them locomotion was difficult, and in some well nigh impossible ...

Four pantomimes in central London exceed the usual number. In the suburbs managers adhere, as always, to the national form of entertainment, and Harlequin is at home at the Surrey, Astley's, the Standard, and

ES 40: ad: v 5: ei;

Trati icay leal Tra-red;

elsewhere in remote parts.

The directors of what may be called the "cornedy" theatres look down with wonted indifference on the almanack. The Haymarker, with Mr. W.S. Gilbert's Pygmalion and Galatea, the Prince of Wales's, with the late Mr T. W. Robertson's revived Caste, and the Globe, with Mr. H. J. Byron's Partners for Life, are clearly set up for the season, and heedless of holyday supplements. Similarly unchangeable are the "dramatic" Olympic, with Mr. W. Collins's Woman in White, and the "dramatic" Lyceum, with Le Juif Polonais, which, as the Bells, derives a thoroughly English vitality from the acting of Mr. Irving. Mr. A. Halliday's Notre Dame is revived at the Adelphi, and the Tempest remains at the Queen's till the end of the week, to be followed, after a short interval, by a dramatized version of Lord Lytton's Last Days

NEWS

Private sector adoption service

■ Adoption services could be hived off to the private sector under plans being drafted by the Prime Minister in an attempt to reduce the influence of social workers.

John Major has ordered an urgent review of adoption policy and of arrangements for the 55,000 children living in care. He is concerned that many social services departments do not offer adoption as a viable option to children nor treat seriously applications from prospective adoptive parents Page 1

Votes for Major disqualified

■ The BBC seems set to scrap its annual Radio 4 Today Personality of the Year contest after disqualifying 4,000 votes cast for John Major, this year's winner. The competition was plunged into controversy after evidence of multiple voting for

Labour caution

Gordon Brown is stopping his shadow cabinet colleagues from speaking out on any policy which could involve spending commitments. .. Page I

Royal shoot

The Duke of Edinburgh led three generations of the Royal Family in a Sandringham pheasant .. Page l

Day-old baby found

A day-old baby abandoned under a hedge in freezing temperatures near Gateshead was saved after a teenage paperboy heard her cries and went to investigate Page I

Education gap

Government advisers are seeking explanations for a growing gap between the qualifications achieved in London and in parts of the Midlands and north of EnglandPage 2

Skiers warned

Reckless skiers who cause accidents in France could end up in jail after two people died on the slopes. Judicial authorities say that they are prepared to imprison skiers responsible for

Classical lunch

The new dining room at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, is to be a recreation of the cella, or inner chamber, of the ruined temple of Apollo at Bassae in the Peloponnese......Page 6

Star sisters

Twin sisters who found stardom after being cast in a Hollywood film of Homer's The Odyssey said that they were postponing their university studies to become models ...

Mink on the run

Otters are putting the alien mink to rout on Britain's riverbanks. In the process, they are throwing a lifeline to their endangered neighbour, the water vole Page 8

Clinton budget

President Clinton is preparing to seize the initiative in next year's budget battle with a plan to balance the books by 2002 and also deliver tax relief ...

Belgrade battle

Five thousand riot police forced opposition demonstrators off the streets of Belgrade as the Serbian Government cracked down after five weeks of protests against President Milosevic....... Page 10

Troop pullout

Radical rabbis called on Israeli soldiers to disobey orders to withdraw from Hebron even as Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, spoke of the troop pullout being Page 11

Lima explosion

An explosion heightened tension around the besieged Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima where 103 people are still being held hostage..... Page 13

Frescoes found in ruined church

Romanesque wall paintings identified as the oldest extensive church frescoes in Britain have been discovered by a retired engineer among ivy-covered ruins in Norfolk. Scholars speak of being breathless with excitement at the find. One said: Those few who have been fortunate to see it have come back almost speechless".



Ian Farquhar, Master of the Beaufort Hounds, leads them to kennels at Tetbury, Gloucestershire, because the ground was too frosty. Page 1

BUSINESS

Housing boom: Building societies are predicting that house prices may rise by as much as 10 per cent

Bonus threat: Simon de Zoete, the BZW leader of the Northern Electric defence team, missed the crucial meeting of the Takeover Panel which accused BZW of failing to disclose the full amount of fees it was paid to defend Northern against the bid from CE Electric of America Page 40

Budget criticism: Business leaders, including the CBI, have concluded that last month's Budget is damaging to industry Page 40 Banking job losses: The Banking and Finance Union has warned 150,000 more finance jobs could disappear in five years Page 40

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

SPORT

Cricket: England were left running short of excuses after a dismal opening day in the second Test against Zimbabwe. At the close they were 137-9

Football: Manchester United underlined their determination to retain the FA Carling Premiership title with an emphatic 4-0 victory at Nottingham Forest Page 21 Sailing: British sailor Pete Goss

went to the aid of one of his competitors in the Vendee Globe singlehanded non-stop round-the-world race after Raphael Dinelli got into

Racing: One Man won his second successive King George VI Chase at Kempton Park. For Richard Dunwoody, his jockey, it was a fourth win Pages 28, 29

Pop goes flat: David Sinclair looks back on 1996 as the year that rang. to the sound of idols being toppled, as tired old names such as the artist known as a superstar finally rolled out of sightPage 32

Rock's off... Rock On, the tiny. rundown record shop that put Camden on the music map from the late Seventies and lured luminaries, is closingPage 32

. but world music lives: Nigel Williamson takes his pick of the new albums in world music, from the Chieftains' efforts to extend Ireland's frontiers, to Cheikh Lo's Senegalese rhythms....

Crowning glories: Derwent May is allowed to handle some rarely seen and recently rediscovered crown

IN THE TIMES

■ WEEKEND

Call of the wild:

MacArthur on up-and-coming

■ MAGAZINE

The Times overseas

faraway destinations

Images of the year: the

travel editor Brian

Curses: Obscenities have lost their force and crab our speech. Louis de Bernières swears he is through

Role play: Why plump for playing a Walt Disney nanny when you might seems best suited for the role. of Lady Bracknell? Joan Plowright, Lord Olivier's widow, explains all

to Valerie Grove Small, dry and cool: If you're young and hep, it's the onliest thing to be seen drinking this winter. Giles Coren raises a shortstemmed sherry flute to the season's coolest drink: cold

Annual Anget: Christmas is all

about not being as much hun as last

year. New Year's Eve is all about

consoling yourself that at least it is

not as bad as last year, says Giles

manzanilla .

Parent power: One of the most difficult skills is parenting. Carolyn Savjani talks to couples who took lessons in raising children - and found that they worked Page 34

France is America's oldest and one of its best allies and is likely to" remain so. But M. Chirac's current inclination to knock Washington at every opportunity is not advancing French or American interests

TYLISTINGS

Preview: As a young man in Poland the Pope was a poet and playwright of progressive views: Secret Life of the Pope (BBC2, 8.20pm). Review: Matthew Bond found Stanley Baxter stale _....Page 39

Endgame in Belgrade

Milosevic's grip on power will never be the same. The system is imploding from within; the West must help to make this a democratic, not a bloody, transition Page 17

Scots wha hae

In the year ahead the shade of Wallace, along with the spirit of many other Scots past, will be conscripted in a new battle for __Page 17 Britain ..

Monsters of rock

The pop paternalists may inspire pity but they do not deserve sympathy. As the Rolling Stones realised, fans should reserve that for the Devil, not the dinosaurs.... Page 17

BERNARD LEVIN

How can we bring back that feeling, that longing, that belief that every day has some Shakespeare in it? There can be only one answer:

FRANK PROCHASKA Prince Charles does not model himself on any past member of the Royal Family, but his outlook is strikingly similar to that of Prince Albert, who called on the rich and famous to support his various schemes of social

start with the children Page 16

improvement PHILIP HOWARD

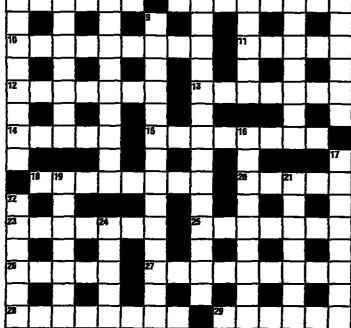
The changing of diaries is distressing as a reminder that we are a year's march nearer to the door of the Alzheimer hotel ... In 1997 I resolve to make the time to enter dates and names legibly, not in shorthand.... .Page (6

Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Derry, wartime escape expert; Tony Wilmot, colonial administrator; Dan Flavin, sculptor...... Page 19

Duties imposed by limited liability: EU policy, heritage funding for historic ships; NHS priority paing Church; rights in Kenya; countryside clutter: pioneering sur-- New York Times | gery; taxing the rich Page 17

THE POW HARAM

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,361



ACROSS

- 1 28 candles are (6).
 4 Retrieve discarded items in other words, get one's own back
- 10 Signal in code, with heaps more to be deciphered (9).
 11 Leading characters in Turandot are Chinese is that not made
- clear? (5). 12 With charms like this, everyone's sure to be led astray (7).
- 13 House left with live-in painter (7). 14 Part of ledger is entered up (5). 15 Music company's name will be known to the public (2,6).
- 18 Puzzling poem, perhaps, telling of an angry insect (8). 20 Plane crashed in mountainous country (5).
- 23 Oblivious of girl with ceramics for sale (7).
- 25 Strong feeling evoked by English proposal (7).

Solution to Puzzic No 20,360

A E E U SO SAKA THAOWOVER OSAKA T E U E O T Y N E U E O T

- 26 What goes into basket of Cockney tradesman? (5). Broadcast man's watching (9).
- 28 Extremely difficult angle as one goal goes in (8). 29 Humble clerical position the writer accepted (6).

DOWN I Smart Alec from West Indies, going to crease, bats (8). 2 With start of unrest left America

under a cloud (7). 3 Zamenhof's baby son Peter a revolutionary? (9). 5 What's said to produce most outstanding feature of Duchess's

cat? (8,6). 6 A bottle to hold tea, they say, is essential (5). Having powerful weapons to

discharge, peace-keepers are up on top (7). 8 Surviving initial cut in aid to navigators (6).

9 Misses out when these awards are allocated? (4,3,3,4). 16 Crowd in to study before lectures

17 Board not set up for seafood (8). 19 Churchwoman's cup (7). 21 Churchman working part-time. half-heartedly (7).

22 Copper has gentleman removed 24 Biting? That's about right (5).

Times Two crossword, page 40

NEWSPAPERS

way we looked in 1996 FORECAST General: England and Wales will

start cloudy with rain, seet or snow edging south. Snow will be light and be mainly confined to higher ground and to eastern parts. Frost will return to many parts in the evening, Scotland and Northern Ireland will have a frosty start. As the day goes

on, wintry showers will tend to die out in all but some parts.

In all out some parts.

London, SE and Cent S England, E Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Isles: rain, sleet or snow slow to clear. Wind mainly southwesterly, moderate. Cold Max 3C (37F).

LE, Cent N and NE England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, N treland: rain, sleet or snow clearing, then a few showers. Wind becoming

northwesterly, moderate. Cold. Max 4C (39F).

Wales, W Midlands, SW and NW

☐ Wales, W Midlands, SW and NW England: cloudy, rain or sleet for a time. Wind northerly, light to moderate. Cold. Max 3C (37F).
☐ Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll: surny spells, showers. Wind northwesterly, light to moderate. Cold. Max 3C (37F).
☐ Moray Firth, NE and NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: surny spells, showers of sleet or snow. Windnorth or northwesterly, moderate. north or northwesterly, moderate. A little less cold. Max 4C (39F). Cl Outlook: mainly dry, some wintry showers in the east, widespread overnight frost. Cold.

AROUND BRITAIN VESTERDAY Leuchars
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Yesterday: Highest day lenne: St Mary's, Solly, 8C (46P); lowest day max: Buston, Derbyshire, -1C (30P); lowest day max: Buston, Derbyshire, -1C (30P);

efiuen the coupon to, new Zealand Tourism Board, Po Box 485, FreePost ADDLISIONE SURRLY KITS ARE OR HE YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT.

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Sleet and sunny showers 🛖 Lightnina Hail Snow Temperature (Ceisius) 13 Wind speed (mph) & direction conditions Changes to chart below from noon; low Q moves southeast and deepens as lows B and C transfer northeast and fill; high J declines and slips eastwards; high K persists in situ

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INSIDE SECTION TODAY

fansters of rock



SPORT

Who comes out top in the magic numbers game? **PAGES 21-30**



EDUCATION

Bringing up baby: the skills can be taught PAGES 34



BUSINESS

Fallen City star Peter Young has reason to rue 1996 PAGES 35-38, 40

TELEVISION AND RADIO PAGES

38, 39

FRIDAY DECEMBER 27 1996

Lloyd lost for words as batting collapse plunges Zimbabwe tour into deeper trouble

England shirk test of endurance

HARARE (first day of five; Zimbabwe won toss): England have scored 137 for nine wickets against Zimbabwe

SO MUCH for "murdering" the opposition in the first Test; so much for Zimbabwe preparing another slow pitch and playing for a draw, so much for the benefits of the players being without their families at Christmas. Whatever theories one adheres to, there comes a time when reality has to be faced and, in the case of England's beleaguered cricket team, they have to perform.

They did not do so yester-day. That their batting failed so woefully, and with such wilful self-destruction, on the first day of the second Test, almost defies explanation and left even David Lloyd, their coach, whose comments have had an unfortunate tendency to rebound on him on this tour, all but lost for words.

I can't explain it," he said. "It is, by a long way, the worst day of my England coaching

If Lloyd has tended to xpress his thoughts too readily, his players showed similar mpatience on a predictably they accepted that runs were never going to come easily. ly over a sluggish outfield, and stuck to the modest task of scoring, say, 180 for three over the course of the day, they might be wellignominious defeat in the face. That simple strategy was

ENGLAND: Post innings

ENGLAND: First Innings
N V Knight c A Flower b Olongs ... 15
(33min, 20 belts, 1 lour)

M A Atherbon c Campbell
b Whittell
13
(89min, 49 belts, 1 sb)
†A J Stewart c G W Flower b Streak 19
(62min, 44 belts, 1 four)
N Husseln c A Flower b Streak ... 11
(73min, 53 belts, 1 four)
G P Thorpe c Delstor b Streak ... 5
(37min, 20 belts)
J P Crawley not out 37
(178min, 132 belts, 2 lours)
C White c Campbell b Whittell ... 9
[59min, 47 belts)
R D B Crott c G W Flower b Whittell .14
(79min, 55 belts, 2 fours)

Zimbabwe won toss

(79min, 55 balls D Gough b Strang . (9min, 8 balls) A D Mullally c and b

A D Multiply c and b Writtell ...
(3min, 2 balls)
P C R Tufnell not out

Extras (b 1, lb 5, w 1, nb 5) ...

Total (9 wids, 73 overs, \$11min)... 137

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24 (Atherton 8), 2-50 (Stewart 19), 3-50 (Hussain 0), 4-65

Lloyd may be reluctant to suggest the reasons, explanations have to be forthcoming. Two worthy of consideration are that, on the one hand,

England habitually underperform and, on another, they have habitually underestimated the abilities of these particular opponents - none more so than Guy Whittall, whose seemingly innocuous medi-um-paced bowling helped thwart their run-chase in the first Test and who yesterday. returned the stunning analysis of 13-5-12-4.

Whittall is regarded by his team as a useful partnershipbreaker and he lived up to that

Ambrose's high five Prasad on song ... Hollioake held up

reputation by ending three of the four largest stands of the day. Damningly for England, these amounted to just 26, 21 and 34. His success inspired speculation as to when an equally ordinary bowler last did so well at Test level, but to pursue such inquiries is to commit the same mistake that the England batsmen made yesterday. If a bowler drops the ball on the right spot on a pitch as turgid as this one, he cannot be treated lightly. Streak also exploited the conditions skilfully, swinging the being rewarded with three

80WLING Streek 19-4-34-3 [nb 2 w 1: 2 fours; 40-18-0, 10-2-11-3, 5-2-10-0; Brandse 14-5-31-0 (1 sb; 2 fours; 30-11-0, 40-13-0, 7-5-7-0); Olonga 9-1-23-1 (nb 3; 1 four; 5-0-13-1, 4-1-10-0); Whithell [25-12-4-42-2-1, 5-1-7, 4-2-

Whitel 13-5-12-4 (4-2-2-1, 5-1-7-1, 4-2-3-2); Strang 18-7-31-1 (2 fours; 1-0-5-0, 17-7-26-1).

SCORING NOTES: First day: Lunch: 63-3 (25 overs, 121mln; Hussain 7, Thorps 5). Test: 108-6 (55 overs, 242mln; Crawley 23, Crolt 2). Bad light stopped play at 4.12pm — 17 overs lost.

ZIMBABWE: G W Flower, M H Dekker,
"A D R Campbell, D L Houghton, †A
Flower, A C Wales, G J Whitnal, P A
Strang, H H Streak, E A Brandes and H R
Olongs.

Umpires: K T Francis (Sri Lanka) and R B Tiffin, Third umpire: I D Robinson. Match referee: Hanumani Singh (india).

important wickets.

The day was a tactical triumph for Zimbabwe from · Campbell won the toss and put in England, taking the risk of handing them the initiative and spending the rest of the game playing catch-up. England negotiated the dan-gerous first hour for the loss

of Knight, who looked good until he gloved a leg-side catch to the wicketkeeper off Olonga. The game was not long into its second hour, however, when it became clear that Campbell's gamble was paying off. England gave way to frustration and the wickets started to tumble.

Indeed, Knight's wicket was the last that they lost that was not directly of their own making as Zimbabwe's bowlers stuck rigorously to their line-and-length policy. If England had a game plan, there was little evidence of it. Atherton, Stewart, Hussain, White and Croft all perished attempting to drive, a stroke laced with danger when the ball holds up as it did here, while Thorpe was outwitted, Dekker being placed at short square leg for his favoured clip off the pads. The remainder went quietly, as England tails are inclined to these days, before bad light brought an early close with 17 overs

Only Crawley showed anything like the necessary application. He has so far batted three nours for 31, navu spent six hours compiling 112 in the first Test, when he also

The chances of Tufnell

the day was that in which Atherton and Stewart fell in

surviving long with him this morning and adding muchneeded runs must be remote. Unless they add ten, England will collect the unwanted record of the lowest Test total achieved against Zimbabwe. Arguably the key period of

successive overs, when England were first attempting to break free of their shackles. A clear warning of the dangers of driving was issued in the eighteenth over when Campbell spurned a routine chance at first slip off Streak to reprieve Stewart. In the very next over, however, Atherton

gave Campbell an immediate

chance to make amends off

Olonga, and seven balls later



Stewart was well held by Grant Flower, diving to his

right in the gully.

Atherton has more than once avowed his enthusiasm for the game on this tour but, in the last nine days, during which he has failed three appeared jaded and lacking in rhythm. Thorpe seems equally out of form, having struggled badly for runs since joining the tour late, shortly after the birth of his first child. Perhaps he more than most is suffering from the enforced three-month

separation from families. No less satisfactory was the performance of White, drafted in to give the side "balance" but who appeared to get worse

as his hour-long stay contin-ued. He survived one convincing appeal for leg-before by Strang before giving a catch to first slip off Whittall that he needlessly waited for the umpire to confirm. Nevertheless, he did not deserve the uncharitable abuse heaped on him by a small section of the crowd as he returned to the pavilion.

Pearce's smile erased by rampant United

Nottingham Forest .. Manchester United

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

STUART PEARCE was right. He should have quit while he was on top. while his management record read: played one, won one. Yesterday, Manchester United came to the City Ground and left with another four goals to bring their Christmas tally to nine and a victory so casually won, so breathtaking in its command and embarrassing in its simplicity that the FA Carling Premiership title could be all over by the time United play their European Cup quarter-

Man Utd.

AND NEWS

SERVER TO A SERVER TO SERV

The Forest revival, heralded after an unlikely victory over Arsenal, ended with barely a whimper and, to add to United's perfect day, Andy Cole returned for his first game since the FA Cup Final and scored within five minutes.

The United faithful were in good voice, running through a repertoire of Christmas ditties, safe in the knowledge that once the first had gone in, after 25 minutes, there was no danger to their supremacy.

They were aided, though, by Pearce's tactical impocence. If Arsenal were bewildered by the formation concocted by Pearce and his wife over a late-night cup of tea, United - and Giggs, in particular - could hardly believe their luck this time.

Faced by a confused Saunders, whose instincts are hardly tuned to the grafting role of wing back, Giggs pulled the right of the Forest defence hither and thither, forcing Pearce to revert to the tried and trusted 4-4-2 after half-time. By then, though, the match was gone: United were two goals up and able to turn the second half into an exhibition.

Both of United's first-half goals flowed down their left. The first came midway through the half, when an interchange of passes between Giggs, Cantona and Solskjaer left the Norwegian free to cross deep to Beckham, who had time to control and chip the ball delicately into Crossley's top right-hand corner. The second was similar in construction and execution. Giggs, his

Shearer frozen out Bosnich blunders Wolves show teeth .

balance ideally suited to the frostier half of the pitch, turned away from Jerkan and Haaland, crossed back for Scholes to drive the ball into Pearce, only for Butt to crack the rebound low past Crossley.

eight yards out but, with the whole goal to aim for, drove the ball past the post and into an advertising hoarding announcing, ominously for Forest, "Give me five." Pearce was doubtless trying to summon up words of encouragement for his halftime team talk, but there was not much he could do. His team looked dispirited, short of class at the front and short of fight in midfield, where Haaland, the two-goal hero against Arsenal, had a pedestrian afternoon.

There are too many players in Forest red not earning their wages and Pearce's first job might be to find out why, or the new consortium, whoever they might be, will find themselves in charge of a first

In between, Giggs was left alone

Beckham wheels away in triumph after putting Manchester United in front at the City Ground yesterday

For United, the main dangers in the second half were complacency and frostbite. Forest did manage to summon a head of steam for the first ten minutes, Woan twice going close, the first an aerial shot parried by Schmeichel, the second a low drive just wide. It was at least purposeful, if not quite a purple patch. Clough, too, on his first start at the City Ground since his temporary return from Maine Road, brought some cohesion and vision to his old team in that

trundling way of his. Once United had added a third midway through the second half, though, any lingering doubts were erased. It was a goal of nonchalant arrogance, too, Beckham's early cross finding Cantona between two defenders. The Frenchman controlled the ball deftly and delicately lifted a volley over Crossley and on to the crossbar. Solskjaer followed up to head home. Ten minutes later. Cole twisted and turned on the edge of the penalty area and clipped the ball into the left side of Crossley's net.

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, rang the changes, mindful of sterner tasks ahead, and spoke afterwards of "the luxury" of having two straightforward wins when others are slogging for every point. Cantona is back to his peak, Giggs is rampant, Beckham has enjoyed a few weeks' rest and the absent Keane has harely been missed. It could be another happy new year for United. ADDOTTED HARPPY HEW YEAR TO FORECT AND CONSIDER AND TRINGHAM FOREST (3-5-1-1): M Crossley — N Jerken, S Chertle, S Pearce — D Seunders (sub: S Germanil, 45min), A1 Haalami, C Cooper, I Woan, C Allen — N Coungh (sub: J Lee, 7-5) — K Campbell MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P Schmachel — G Neville, D May, R Johnson, D Inven — D Beddham, N Butt (sub: B McCleir, 77), P Scholes, R Gogge (sub: K Poborsky, 77) — E Centions, O G Solsiquer (sub: A Cole, 70)



Return to Rovers proves unhappy for Shearer



Blackburn Rovers Newcastie United

By Mark Hodkinson

REUNIONS are as much part of Christmas as diamond patterned sweaters and boxes of dates that remain on the coffee table until Easter. Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle United manager, made Alan Shearer captain for the day on his return to Ewood Park, where he scored 112 league goals in four seasons with Blackburn Rovers.

Thereafter Shearer was made to feel most unwelcome and, in the football vernacular, he never got a kick. Berg and Hendry, the Blackburn central defenders, took turns to shadow Shearer and such was

just before half-time. The presence of their celebrated former teammate clearly galvanised Blackburn and their football was always more cultured than their opponents'. Newcastle have lost the seamless rearnwork of earlier in the season and instead resorted to fractured. aimless huff and puff.

"We are not playing well and I'm not going to kid you otherwise," Keegan said. "We had the chances but they didn't go in. I'm disappointed we did not get anything out

Unsmiling, his eyes staring down, Keegan was asked whether the commotion about Shearer's return had emotionally drained the player. "I don't think he gets emotional drains. You'll have to ask him that question." There Keegan's character that is apparent during times of despair. The lines wrinkle around his eyes, the jaw is buried in a tracksuit too. Like his team, he perhaps needs to lighten

Although chances were scarce, both teams made regular forays upfield. Gillespie twice crossed towards Shearer but Berg and Hendry smothered both attempts. Watson tripped Wilcox and was

booked, the first of seven players to

make referee Mike Reed's note-

book, the others being Shearer, Beardsley and Batty, of Newcastle, and Gallacher, McKinlay and Bohinen, of Blackburn. Chris Sutton, wearing Shearer's old No 9 shirt for the first time at Ewood Park, accepted the mantle

in excellent spirit. His rather flat-

guile and presence and he constantly perturbed Peacock and

Just after the interval he was through on goal, but scooped the ball wide beyond the far post. Soon afterwards he was fed by Bohinen . but lost the race with Srincek, who saved well. The game's solitary goal came after a hectic scramble in the

Newcastle penalty area. Bohinen shot and Elliott managed to clear it from the goalline. Sutton headed it forward again for Gallagher to swivel and ram past Smicek with his left foot

"Shearer, Shearer, what's the score?" was the chant from the Blackburn fans, followed by excessive sarcastic bowing to the No 9 in black and white. Just minutes

yard pass to Elliott. It arrived at his right foot just as he had switched his balance. The ball ran beyond him for a throw, Ellion fell awkwardly onto his backside. The incident epinomised Newcastle's

Tony Parkes, the Blackburn carciaker manager, rightly praised his centre backs: "They never gave Alan, or Les Ferdinand, a chance today. I think Alan coming back added something to our game. I can't praise my centre halves enough for keeping them both so

He described the goal as a melée and, with typical good humour, said: The best part of the goal was when Kevin ran to the touchline with his arms in the air - I knew he'd scored then!"

Blackburn's survival chances but have left Newcastle some distance behind the top places in the FA Carling Premiership. The invention and impetuousness of Ginola was absent through injury but the array of talent should have been able to create far more incision.

Beardsley is playing too deep, Batty's bullish temperament is making the midfield jittery and Shearer and Ferdinand are too often isolated as if at the end of an incompany to the state of imaginery gangplank. All at sea, is indeed Newcastle's predicament. BLACKBURN ROVERS (4.3-2-1): T Flowers — J Kenne, H Berg, C Hendry, G La Saza — T Shankbood, L Bolinien, W McKentery — J Wilcox, K Galascher — C Sutton.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): P Smicek Vistson, D Pascock, P Abert, R Elicot Catestole R Las. D Batty, P Beardsley

FOOTBALL

Arsenal's ambition frustrated by Walker

By PETER BALL

PUTTING Arsenal on television at teatime on Boxing Day was tempting fate and the TV moguls got their comeuppance. The scoreline said it all. The London team were the less bad of two depressingly ordinary sides but, in a mediocre game, they only rarely looked like taking advantage of Liverpool's failure to beat Leicester City and so close the gap at the top of the FA Carling Premiership.

Perhaps their minds were numbed by the cold as the temperature fell well below zero; perhaps they felt that not even television should be allowed to dictate such kick-off times at this period of the year.

Pernaps the desire of Arsene Wenger, the manager, to improve Arsenal's disciplinary record has subdued them, but even their usual fierce commitment was missing, with Ian Wright subdued and Tony Adams hardly making a

The friction of the meeting

Wolves find form 24

at Highbury in September was still in the air last night. Arsenal were greeted with boos, and Wright, who, inevitably, had been involved in the hostilities of the first game. was soon the target again, as he slid into Pressman. But on this occasion the Arsenal forward appeared guildess, with the ball there to be won.

That flicker of a chance had come from a Wednesday defensive error, and in spite of the enduring excellence of Des ing first half, defensive errors seemed the most likely source of a goal for Arsenai.

Their run has been impressive, but the suspensions that are catching up with them are beginning to expose the shallowness of their squad. Last night, with the outstanding Vieira missing, their midfield lacked the vision he gives it. his replacement, Remi Garde. making little impact.

Yet in the first half-hour. Arsenal could have had the points sewn up. When Merson released Parlour down the right, he cut the ball back into Bergkamp's path, but from just inside the area Bergkamp's shot fizzed a foot over the bar. Then Parlour tried art up and under. Almost unbelievably. Bergkamp was unchallenged and lay the ball sideways. Platt arrived, equalunmarked, but blasted wastefully over the bar.

This was unseasonable fare for the home supporters, who Hirst made virtually no impression on the Arsenal defence and it was only Walker's brilliantly timed interceptiom which denied Bergkamp as Merson tried to put him through. Walker's arrival, in the nick of time, left Merson clutching hand to head in

As the half-hour approached. Wednesday at last had a couple of attempts on their own account. Their best move of the half saw Nicol find Hirst, whose flick gave Carbone his first sight of goal. but the shot was too straight and Lukic saved without diffireturned the compliment Hirst's volley bounced wide.

Wednesday were to have the first chance of the second half. after Keown tripped Hirst as he moved towards the edge of the penalty area. But it was typical of the home side's general lack of punch that Carbone's free kick flew harmlessly over the bar.

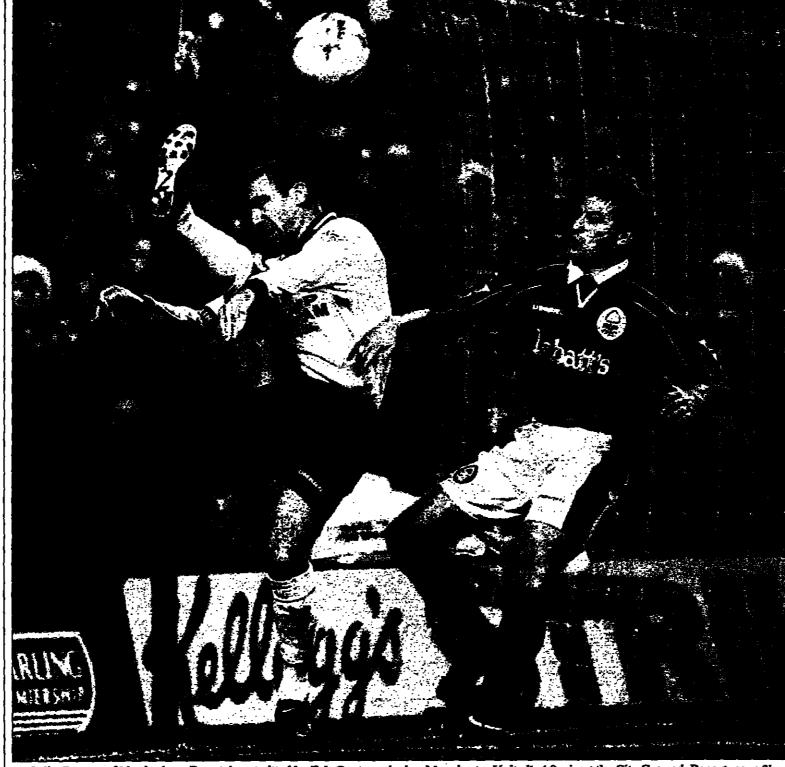
Without looking anything more than average, Arsenal were the sharper side, and once again they could easily have taken advantage of some poor marking by the Wednesday defence. Bould was completely on his own as he met Merson's chip beyond the far post, but Wright just failed to get on the end of his looping header. Similarly, when Merson and Parlour combined, Nolan was just able to scramble the half behind as

Wright again came in. Wednesday's lack of penetration led them to make a substitution. with Blinker coming on, and the first indications were promising as Whittingham and Pembridge combined, but Carbone again

shot weakly. Arsenal's reply again held the greater threat. Shaw had come on for the ineffective Platt at the interval, and he now found space down the left to receive Mersons's pass and clip a centre to the near post. Bergkamp met it with a precise header but the ball hit the post and flew behind.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2)
Presumen — I Noten D Waber, I
Setenoec S Neer — O Weblingham:
Oaker (but R Blenker, 55mm), P Affection
M Perfection — 8 Carbone D Hird (but 8
Booth, 77)

ARSENAL (3-5-2) 2 Luber — M. Keown Laub S. Marchall 90: A Adams S. Bould — R. Parlour, R. Garde P. Marsen, D. Plant (sub-P. Chaw, 46), N. Werberburn — D. Bergkamp, I



Colin Cooper, of Nottingham Forest, is outwitted by Eric Cantona during Manchester United's 4-0 win at the City Ground. Report, page 21

Iversen capitalises on defensive lapses

Tottenham Hotspur...... 3 Southampton

By BRIAN GLANVILLE

AT HALF-TIME, Southampton seemed a little hard done by. A couple of minutes into the second half, sympathy went out of the window. That was when Steffen Iversen, Tottenham Hotspurs's new Norwegian striker, ran past Illrich van Gobbel, the Southampton defender, onto Andy Sinton's pass, and the Dutchman pulled him down.

There seemed two very good reasons for sending off Van Gobbel. First, on the grounds that he was the last defender. Second, that even if he was not he had already been booked once, and this was, at the least another bookable offence. But the referee, Graham Barber, cravenly let Van Gobbel stay on. and the Tottenham fans booed Van Gobbel until the end of the game.

The sympathy for South-ampton in the first half was legitimate in that they played most of the good football that there was, struck the woodwork twice. largely dominated the midfield, but still went in at the interval 2-1 behind. "We were in a Christmas

mood today," Graeme Souness, their manager, reflected resignedly. "I thought we gifted the game to them today. I don't think Tottenham had to do anything very clever to score against us, and that was our downfall. The first thing to be done in football is to defend, and we haven't done that very well this year. That must be our priority." True enough, but Tottenham's own defence, as Gerry Francis, the manager. admitted, was a rocky affair in that first half.

"Going forward, I was quite pleased with certain things," Francis said, "and we got the goals. Overall defensively. in terms of giving them too much room, I wasn't very pleased. During the break. I was able to change things around and nullify a couple of things. The main problem was the boy Berkovic didn't get back too often. He stays in the hole. We had to make sure

we stopped his supply."
This Spurs did by bringing John Scales, lately signed from Liverpool, into what became a three-man defence. and nutting Clive Wilson as a

marker on Berkovic. to defend, Berkovic for much of the match was the salient figure, always in the thick of the Southampton attack, controlling the ball effortlessly. moving it around with speed

Spurs had the incentive of a

rather soft first-minute goal. Steve Carr, their right back, crossed long from the right. Southampton's central defence failed to get to the ball, it reached Iversen on the far

Seven minutes later, Ian Walker, who may have regretted his decision not to wear a cap in bright sunshine, missed Van Gobbel's rightwing cross, Carr headed back towards goal, but Calderwood managed to boot it away.

Subsequently, Ostenstad shot over the bar when a high ball eluded Campbell, Ostenstad's header from Alan Neilson's cross struck the post, and Walker desperately blocked the consequent shot from Berkovic.

"If he had a spoonful less cornflakes this morning," Souness lamented, "and hit it with less power, it goes in." What did go in after 39 minutes, was a gem of a goal

from Matthew Le Tissier controlling Alan Neilson's high cross with casual aplomb, after Walker had failed to reach it.

That made the score 2-L Spurs had scored again against the play on the balfhour when Sheringham found Sinton, whose lab Beasant could reach only at full stretch. The ball fell to (versen, who scored his

Tottenham's Allan Nielsen got the decisive third after 63 minutes, heading in Carr's free kick from the right. Once again, the Southampton de-fence had been harshly

exposed.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker
— S Carr. C Calderwood, S Campbell, C
Wilson — R Fox (sub. J Scales, 46mm), A
Nortsen, D Howels, A Sarton — E
Stenngham S Norsen
SOUTHAMPTON (3-5-2): D Beasant — C
Lundewarn, A Notson, F Benell — R Stefer
faub: D Hughes, SS), J Magiton, E
Berhond, U van Gobbel, N Magdaton (sub:
M Robmon, B) — G Watson (sub: M Le
resser, SS), E Ostenstad
Referer: G Berber.

Sunderland display spirit to hit back after defeat

Derby County

By a Correspondent

SUNDERLAND bounced back from their five goal defeat by Manchester United at Old Trafford five days earlier to record their third win in five games against Derby County yesterday. The victory lifts Sunderland above yesterday's rivals into eleventh place in the FA Carling

Premiership.
Peter Reid's side have developed a reputation for hard work this season and they certainly needed to graft to overcome a determined Derby, themselves attempting to return to form after a disappointing 3-1 defeat at Southampton before Christmas.

Both goals came in the final quarter of a frantic and often ill-tempered match. Ord put them ahead in the 73rd minute, his powerful header from Martin Smith's rightwing corner beating Russell Hoult's despairing dive.

Then Craig Russell, the club's leading goalscorer last down a regular place in the Premiership, raced clear from Paul Bracewell's shrewd pass to put the issue beyond doubt in the 87th minute.

In a first half of few chances. Hoult was easily the busier of the two goalkeepers. He saved in style from Smith and Alex Rae and, when beaten by Ord's 35th-minute effort from Smith's corner, Chris Powell came to the rescue with a goalline clearance. Lionel Perez dived full length to deny; Sean Flynn but Derby, lacking the creativity of Aljosa. Asanovic, their Croatia inter-

national, rarely threatened. Sunderland had to overcome the loss of their inspirational captain, Kevin Ball, at half-time with a suspected broken jaw but always looked the more likely to score. Besides the two goals. Gareth Hall had a fierce drive saved. David Kelly volleyed over the bar and Rae was only inches wide in the last minute.

Reid now has selection worries for the match away to West Ham United tomorrow. "It looks as though Ball has fractured his jaw and Hall has pulled a calf muscle." Reid said. "We are certainly going to be stretched at the back for

the next few weeks." Reid paid tribute to his players' spirit after the heaviest defeat of his Sunderland managerial career at Old Trafford. "We had just let in five and people were asking what we were made of," Reid said. "I think the players showed great character."

SNOVED GREAT CHATACTEY,"

SUNDERLAND (3-5-2): L. Perez — G. Hall
(stut: M. Gray, 88mm), P. Ord, D. Kublek) — A.
MANNIR, D. Kelly, K. Bail (sub: S. Agney, 45),
P. Bractewelt, A. Ree — M. Smith, C. Russonii.
DERBY COURTY (4-4-2): R. Hoult — G.
Rowelt, I. Stimac (sub: D. Yares, 75), P.
McGratht, C. Powelf, — D. Powell, J. Leussen,
S. Flynn (sub: L. Caraley, 88), C. Daily — D.
Sturnige, A. Ward (sub: M. Gabbactini, 79).
Reference: J. Wicker.

Huckerby takes lead role in Elland Road passion play

Coventry City

By Kerth Pike

HAVING established under George Graham a reputation as the Scrooges of the FA Carling Premiership, Leeds United found themselves haunted by a young, discarded winger and their defences torn down like yesterday's decorations. Coventry City, in common with a disbelieving and disenchanted Elland Road crowd, could not quite

helieve their eyes. Not that Gordon Strachan's team were undeserving of their triumph, their third in succession. Behind early on, they replied with three goals in a devastating nine-minute burst before half-time and then held on for the last quarter of an increasingly frenetic afternoon with ten men after the dismissal of

Noel Whelan. With four goals, seven bookings and a sending off, as well as two penalties, this was a match of high dudgeon as well as high drama, transcending which was a performance of real quality by Darren Huckerby.

Huckerby, 22, and released by Kevin Keegan after just two substitute appearances for Newcastle United, had still done enough to persuade Strachan to invest El million

Now we saw why. First he scored a wonderful solo goal to drag Coventry back on terms, then his trickery created Coventry's third. Small but quick and disarmingly confident in possession, he was the one player that Leeds could not contain. Perhaps Leeds thought that, when Deane thrashed them into a ninthminute lead - a fine finish after Rush's dogged pursuit of Dublin had set up the chance - they had done all they

clean sheets behind them. They had reckoned without Huckerby. Receiving the ball ten yards inside the Leeds half close to the left touchline, he set off on a crossfield run that had Leeds hemused. There

needed with five successive

was no hint of a tackle and no chance for Martyn as Huckerby, having reached the penalty area unmolested, beat him emphatically inside his right-hand post.



eight minutes later Coventry were ahead. Wetherall allowed Dublin to escape and head Salako's corner past Martyn, and within 60 seconds it was 3-1 when Huckerby, again cutting in from the left, tempted Palmer into a rash challenge by the angle of the box, but just inside it. McAllister ignored the jeers to

That was in the 29th minute;

sidefact the penalty home. The torment continued in the second half as Huckerby set up chances for Williams and Whelan, who missed a sitter and allowed his frustration to boil over with a wild lunge on Bowyer which brought a second yellow card. Almost immediately, Leeds were thrown a lifeline when

Shaw felled Deane but Ogrizovic snatched it back with a marvellously agile save from Keliy's penalty.

We committed suicide,"

Graham said. "Until Coventry scored we were much the better team. "So they were, but Coventry are now just one place behind them and Struchan could not have been more pleased. "There is nothing like winning for team spirit," he said. At the moment, both are coming easily. LEEDS UNITED (3-14-2), N Martyn — C Parmer, D Wetherall (24th A Vethoch, 67min; P Beesley (24th A Darigo, 48) — L Radiobs — G Keely, M Jackson, L Borreyor, G Hallo — I Rush, B Deane COMENTRY CITY (35-2), S Opiciose — Cubin, L Dash, A Shaw — P Teller, McR. Ser. K Richartson, P Williams, Sulako — D Huckerby (2dn E Jest, 89), Wileyan,

Hinchcliffe ruled out for rest of season

ANDY HINCHCLIFFE, the Everton and England defender, will miss the rest of the season after suffering knee ligament damage. Hinchcliffe, 27, has played in the wing back role in all three internationals since Glenn Hoddle became manager and would almost certainly have been an automatic choice for the World Cup qualifying match against Italy at Wembley in February.

He damaged his knee when he crashed into advertising boards during Everton's goalless draw with Leeds United at Goodison Park on Saturday. Joe Royle, the Everton manager, said: "Andy will have major sur-

him, for Everton and for You've got to feel for the

lad. It's taken Andy a compararively long time to reach the top of his profession and now he's suffered a setback like this. We had no idea the injury was so serious, but the damage has been revealed."

Hinchcliffe's absence could mean an international recall for Graeme Le Saux, of Blackburn Rovers, who was the first choice England left back until he suffered a broken leg in

December last year. The other option would be a recall for Phil Neville, of underla

display

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FOOTBALL: CHELSEA TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GOALKEEPING BLUNDERS TO END VILLA'S WINNING RUN

Bosnich gift-wraps points for Gullit

By ROB HUGHES POOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

MARK BOSNICH is not looking for laughs this festive period. He is trying to supexuberance, trying to make us forget the misguidedness of his joke to the Tettenham Hotspur supporters. Yester-day, however, at Villa Park, he twice within the space of four minutes handed out gifts to Chelsea, as he gave away Aston Villa's record run of five consecutive victories under

His slow-motion artics as he misjudged fairly simple balls certainly put a smile on the face of the diminutive Gianfranco Zola, who accepted both goals.

And the foreigners keep telling us how much they deplore the English custom of playing three times in Christ-mas week. Rund Gullit, the Chelsea manager, playing so elegantly in the libero role, at least put it eloquently when he said: The players in Italy, players everywhere abroad, are at home for Christmas in front of the chimney." If one hears another profes-

sional footballer, paid thousands of pounds per match. lament the playing of the game, one would dearly love to introduce him to David Busst, who is trying to piece his life back together after breaking a leg so horrendous-ty at Old Trafford last Easter.

Chelsea undoubtedly deserved to master Villa. As Little observed: "Gullit playing at the back makes all the difference. He keeps it right for them. He played up front at Sunderland, and I hoped he would play there against us ... but with him keeping it organised as the game went on, the likes of Zola began to find their form."

Zola, 30, was indeed irrepressible. He comes in a pintsize but he runs with the zest, the energy of a teenager, runs like a wind-up mouse. Increasingly. Zola would not let the strained and somewhat pas-



Ehiogu, the Aston Villa central defender, takes a tumble as Hughes, the Chelsea striker, refuses to give ground as the ball escapes both

sive encounter settle into mediocrity, and with his vision and technique, he was the most influential character long before he capitalised on

the Bosnich errors. For two sides with championship pretensions, this was mighty slow to warm the hands and engage the minds of a capacity crowd. In the opening hour, Savo Milosevic. a shadow of the figure who devastated Wimbledon four days earlier, appeared languid, almost disinterested. His manager said that he was withdrawn because "he showed the first signs of suffering that virus that seems

Chelsea contained Villa at their ease and stole forward judiciously. In the 37th minute, from Zola's exquisite pass, Di Matteo appeared clean through the home de-

fence, only to be pushed to the ground from behind just outside the penalty box. Under Fifa rules, there seemed one option, Scimeca should have been red-carded; instead, Paul Danson, a referee so quick to use the ultimate sanction in the autumn, issued only a yellow card for "ungentlemanly conduct".

The clockwork mouse drove his free kick over the bar, but he worked up new urgency and was denied by Bosnich's right hand before he went on

to score twice. Before he did so, Villa had their one and only chance. Johnson, the replacement for Milosevic, produced a teasing cross from the left. Yorke, with his header, was repelled by a combination of Clarke and Phelan, but even then Taylor missed a sitter, failing to connect with the ball four yards from goal.

Seconds later, Petrescu slipped the ball through the middle and Zola, his instincts ever alert, shot for goal. Down went Bosnich, too early perhaps. And then, as if he were numb through inactivity, the goalkeeper seemed to lose the ball, and it entered his net off his left leg. There was all manner of talk of a slight deflection, perhaps a devious

The truth was, as Little admitted, that a goalkeeper of the quality of Bosnich should take such a ball and, indubitably, he should have taken with ease the headed back pass from Nelson in the seventieth minute. Instead, Bosnich attempted to kick the ball, missed it completely, and Zola nipped in gleefully to hook the ball handsomely into the net.

as a midfield player, if is a great feeling when the defence is solid behind you."

ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M Bosnich — U Brogu, S Staution, R Scimeca — F Nelson, I Taylor, M Draper (sub: S Curce, Schrin), A Townsend, A Wright — D Yorke, S Missewe (sub: T Johnson, 82).

CHELSEA (3-5-2): F Grodes — M Duberry, R Guilli, S Clarke — D Petrescu, C Burley, E Newton, R Di Marteo, A Myers (sub: T Phelan, 82) — G Zola, M Hughes.

Referee: P Denson. The goalkeeper, far from the warmth of Bondi Beach, had frozen. Villa, about to meet every team that matters, had

> in the 39th minute and then watched as Duncan Ferguson headed in unmarked.

As space opened, so

come apart. And Chelsea? "We

have worked very hard over the last two weeks about our defensive job," Gullit said.

That doesn't mean we have to

be defensive, but I am very happy with the competition

for places, and I know Zola,

now that he is settled with his

own house and he feels appre-

ciated, is very happy because, as a midfield player, it is a

Juninho prospered. He beat Southall in the 57th minute after good work by Fabrizio Ravanelli and secured victory with 14 minutes remaining after cutting inside from the right and playing a one-two with the Italian.

EVERTON (3-4-1-2): N Southall — E Berrett, D Watson (subt: G Allen, 14; subt: M Hottiger, 74), D Unsworth — G Stuan, T Grant, J Parkinson, G Speed — N Bermby — D Ferguson, M Branch (sub: P Riclous, 70)

Liverpool fail to dissuade their critics

Liverpool Leicester City1

By DAVID MADDOCK

NO ONE, it seems, wants to win the FA Carling Premier ship. Such a sentiment is, by now, becoming a bit of an old chestnut, but at least it is a seasonally warm one. The leadership has been juggled from team to team, and Liverpool are the latest to find it a bit hot to handle.

They remain at the top of the table, but for how long, after again throwing away, with abandon, home points? Liverpool have taken nine points from the last 18 at home, and against an ordinary, if organised, Leicester City side, they displayed neither the imagination nor inclination to remain at the head of affairs for long.

For the largest Anfield crowd of the season, there was almost the same sense of deia vu normally experienced from the television schedules at this time of year. At least the James Bond repeats are action-packed, but Liverpool are becoming depressingly lethargic at home.

Just as against Sheffield Wednesday, they passed poor-ly and rarely found the man-marked McManaman. They even fell behind to a goal created after the ball was deflected in the penalty area, but this time at least Liverpool were spared the ignimony of defeat, thanks to a smattering of spirit in a late rally that brought a goal for Stan Collymore.

It did little, though, to dissuade the growing number of observers who believe that Liverpool have too many off days like these to challenge seriously for the championship. McManaman was quiet because he rarely saw the ball, even though he clearly had the beating of Hill, his manmarker, who was afraid to get too close. After that, there was nothing in the creative department, and that must be worrying for Roy Evans, the

Liverpool's problems stemmed once again from midfield, where Barnes was anonymous and Thomas completely off key. The duo are dotingly termed veterans, and one wonders if they are up to. these days, two games in three days, especially when the first is a strength-sapping contest against Newcastle United.

If Liverpool again failed to find their rhythm, then Leicester have to take much credit, Lennon, in particular, showing a rare quality to win the ball in midfield and use it intelligently. Barnes had barely a second to breathe, and it is pity for Leicester that they will lose the Northern Ireland midfield player for two games, after he picked up a bookin which earns him suspension.

Littry 45 (pen) Anderson 45 2,392

ST JOHNSTN Grant 32 West 47 Scott 64

McGrillen 25 6,331

It was a pity, too, that their performance did not bring the victory it probably deserved. Claridge was a trojan all afternoon, ploughing a lone furrow along the front line with a farmer's relish, and scoring a fine goal to give Leicester the lead after 76 minutes.

Only Lennon had really troubled James, the Liverpool goalkeeper, previously with a shot early in the game, but he had no chance when Claridge reacted first after Lennon's effort was this time blocked, and he curled a sweet shot inside the left-hand post from the right edge of the penalty

Given Leicester's lack of penetration, defeat was unthinkable for the Anfield crowd, even if their own side had not seriously threatened, but now they were facing the prospect of another taste of cold turkey. Collymore, it was, who saved the day, with a goal fashioned from Liverpool's best move of the afternoon.

McAteer cut inside from the right flank, and fed Mc-Manaman inside the penalty



Collymore: equaliser

area, Too infrequently, Liverpool found their danger man, and he showed what he could do when he has the ball by slipping it cleverly to Collymore. A smart exchange with Wright, lurking surprisingly on the left side of the box. and Collymore found space on his left foot. He did not miss from close range.

The goal came after 78 minutes, and there was time enough for a winner as Berger, Collymore and Thomas all forced saves from Keller.

A bad result for Liverpool then, as the words of Martin O'Neill, the Leicester manager, testified. "We are even a little disappointed not to win after getting in front, but maybe that's a little too imaginative," he said. "Put it this way, I'll be getting diabolically drunk tonight."

LIVERPOOL (3-5-1-1) D James -- M Wright, N Ruddock, P Babb (sub- D Maneo, 68min) -- J McAlser, M Thomas, J Bames, P Barger, S Bjornebye (sub- M Kennedy, 68) -- S McMenaman -- S Collymore, LEICESTER CITY (4-1-4-1): K Keller — S Grayson, I Marshall, S Prior, P Kaamark, Istate N I awar A2 — C Hill — S Common A

Everton taxed by Brazilian import's double duty



Everton By RICHARD HORSON

GALLONS of muddled water have flowed the length of the Tees in the 14 weeks since Juninho last scored in the FA Carling Premiership, depositing silt onto the riverbed as naturally as Middlesbrough have dropped points.

Yesterday, the passionate home crowd demonstrated that the sands of time have not emded their ability to celebrate victory as their favourite import produced finishes of true Brazilian quality on two occasions to help them

 \overline{A} to their first league win since defending to attack with a tion of their third and fourth Bristol City, restored the lead September 14.

Whether it is coincidence that Everton were their onnonents on that occasion. or that Juninho was also a scorer, is a matter for conjecture. That game also marked the afternoon on which Nick Barmby scored his last goal for Middlesbrough. He returned to the Riverside stadium for the first time vesterday and was roundly booed throughout.

Last Saturday, Middles-brough refused to fulfil their fixture against Blackburn Rovers, citing injury or illness to 23 players. They not only turned up yesterday, they overcame some calamitous

with the ability of the players Bryan Robson, the manager, has brought to the club. "I hope we have finally turned the corner this time," Robson said. "Despite all the publicity there has not been a great deal wrong with the dub and perhaps now we will be able

to move in the right direction." Joe Royle, his Everton counterpart, was not happy with the influence of Steve Dunn, the referee. He felt that Barmby should have won a penalty as early as the third minute, that Middlesbrough should have been penalised for fouls during the construc-

goals, and revealed that Dave Watson was replaced after 14 minutes with suspected fractured ribs that he believed were damaged by an elbow.

"I do not want this to sound like sour grapes because we were poor but I could not believe some of the things that I saw," Royle said. Juninho and Emerson

combined in the 22nd minute to allow Craig Hignett to sweep a low shot beyond Neville Southall, before David Unsworth equalised from the penalty spot eight minutes later after David Whyte had handled.

Clayton Blackmore, called from a loan period at

PORTER DESIGNATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROP

מאט	(sub S Taylor, 50), N Lennon, M Izzel, Heshey — S Claridge Referee: A Wilkie
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NEWCASTLE 30.298 Cosmon Ferguso 29,873 G MAN UTD Becking 25 But 44 Substant 57 Cole 76 (0) O ARSENAL Leerpool..... Arsenal....... Man Ukd..... Wimbledon . A Villa

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UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier division: Accington Stanky 4 Bamber Bridge 1; Byth Spartana 1 Gibeley 1; Colwyn Bay 5 Knowsky 0; Emiley 3 Frickley 3; Hydle 2; Buddon 0; Meinte 1 Chorley 0. Pollipsonad: Alteston v Laels, Gameborough v Beston Larcoaster v Barrow, Spermynood v Beston Audianck, Witton v Minsford, Frist stivision: Anteston LR v Nestersfeld; Custon Astiton V Raddille, Farsisy Califo v Stockehridge PS; Fibton v Droyfeden, Gretna v Whiting Bey, Harrogets Town v Bardford PA: Laight v Workington; Lincoln Linded v Worksop;

(1) 1 SHEFF UTD (1) 2 Taylor 26 Scotl 47 (0) 1 BOLTON (1) 3 C PALACE Genton 65 (16,020 PORTSMTR 10.805 (1) 2 (1) 2 WEST BROW (2) 2 Peachtsolido 3 Groves 39 Sent off A Bernel (Reading) 77 (0) O CHARLTON (1) Knowle 43 Robleson 65 (0) 1 BARNSLEY (0) 19,025 WOLVRHMPTN (1) 3 0000R0 UTO (1) Osbora 13, 57 Bay 33 Gaudanai 68 26,511 POSTPONED: Oldham v Birmincham POOLS PANEL: Oldham v Birmingham (Hall-time: ng-acore draw; Full-time: no-GRIBERT LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor Chy 3 Carmans Bay 1; Carmarthen Town 2 Sprion Ferry 0; Corman's Quey 0 Uarnesminaid 1; Newtown 2 Cassive 1; Postporned: Bany v trear Cable-Te; Ebbw Vale v Carmbran; First Town v Holywell: Walangood v Abarushwith.

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JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIE:
LEAGUE: Premier divisions Bury Town I
Diss 4; Fallistowe P and T 0 Woodbridge 1
Gorleston 2 Great Yarmouth 1, Harwits and
Parkeston 4 Claction 0, Soham 1 New
market 0; Wishesh 5 March 5. Postponed
Hadleigh v Stowmorket; Halstead v Tiptree
Sudbury v Sudbury; Watton v Falkerinan
Whosham v Lowestoft. SCREWRY DIRECT LEAGUE: Promis

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: Final di-vision: Lymington 5 Brockenhurst 1, B AT. 2 Totton 1, Bernerion Health Harf 3 Downton 0: Eastleigh 1 Aerostructures 1, Portsmooth RN 1 Gospon 0; Ryde Sports 0 East Courts 1: Thatchern 4 Petersfield 0, Postpondet

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES

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UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES

WOOLDA'V Natipastori
UNILET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUEFirst divisiont, Eastbourne Town 0
Languey Sports 1. Ringmer 2 Hallsham 1:
Selicies 1 Peacethwen and Telscombes 1
Selicies 2 Pontifield 4. Postponeck Anuncial v
Pagharn; Hassocks v Burgess HatHorstham Y M C A v Wick Southwick v
Shorehem, Three Bridges v Oakwood:
Whiteheavik v Mile Cek.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Promise division: Postponed; Cradity Town Gomel Res, Deression v Wolverhempton WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Bedestham Town 1 Cray Wanderers 0. Faversham Town 2 Deal Town 2 Furness 1 Lordswood 7; Rems-

FOOTBALL: PREMIERSHIP PRETENDERS UNDERLINE THEIR TOP-FLIGHT CREDENTIALS BY MAKING HOME IMPROVEMENT

Wolves huff and puff to keep house standing

Wolverhampton W 3 Oxford United .

By Russell Kempson

MOLINEUX should be a fortress. Its garish old gold facade hits you right between the eyes: its imposing and impressive structures - the Stan Cullis Stand, Billy Wright Stand et al — reek of the FA Carling Premiership: and its populace, seemingly always 20.000-plus, create a crescendo of noise. Yet Molineux, for Wolverhampton Wanderers this season. has been little more than a paper citadel.

From a possible 39 points at home. Wolves have taken 15. Six times they have lost to such notables as Reading, Port Vale and Oldham Athletic. and were it not for their redoubtable away form - 24 points from 33 - they would barely rate a mention in the Nationwide League first division promotion race. It must change, soon.

Yesterday's display perhaps signalled a long-overdue reversal of fortunes. Wolves beat an earnest, yet limited, Oxford United side and the relief, on and off the pitch, was

almost tangible. For Sir Jack Hayward, the club president and benefactor. it was also an appropriate reward for his long-distance trek. Sir Jack, on Christmas leave from his base in the Bahamas, had exhorted his beloved Wolves, in a pre"Welcome, Oxford. I hope it's not too bad for you," he said. "We need the points more than you." It was not strictly true - Oxford are equally involved in the promotion hunt - but the sentiments were clear. "We're in desperate need of a victory here," he

might have said. A victory it was, too, ultimately deserved but still distinctly devoid of anything Premiership in substance. Wolves started well, took the lead, allowed Oxford an equaliser and then made amends with a rousing second-half

Mark McGhee, the Wolves manager, still adopted a cautious stance. "It's too early yet

Full results and league tables . Page 23

to say whether this supposed home hoodoo is over." he said. "We beat Manchester City 3-0 here and then, next time out, lost to Oldham. We'll just have to wait and see."

Hayward's most fervent hopes reached fruition in only the thirteenth minute. Bull passed to Goodman on the edge of the Oxford area and his deft back-heel found the supporting Osborn. He took a quick look up, spotted the gap between Whitehead and post and placed a nicely-controlled side foot shot into the corner.

From a position of authority, though, Wolves swiftly nosedived into self-doubt. from Beauchamp and, in the subsequent goalmouth scramble, Jernson blazed high over the crossbar from close range. He should have added to his 17 goals this season.

In the 33rd minute, Oxford deservedly drew level as Wolves descended further into disorganisation. Mike Ford drifted over a delightful cross from the left and Gray was allowed to rise in splendid isolation to nod past Stowell. It appeared the citadel was about to fall again and, had Beauchamp's cross-shot gone in instead of grazing the far post shortly before the inter-

val, it might well have done. However, Wolves emerged invigorated after the interval and, in the 64th minute, Goodman took advantage of defensive slackness to slide the ball home. Three minutes later, further ineptitude at the back resulted in Osborn claiming his second goal and Wolves' third. Game over.

Oxford's general disillusionment was illustrated when Denis Smith, the manager, was sent from the dugout in the 81st minute after he had made a double substitution and a few choice remarks to a referee's assistant. "I was trying to organise the team and he clearly didn't like the way I



Darren Purse, the Oxford defender, fends off Steve Bull during Wolves' 3-1 victory at Molineux yesterday

McDermott strikes late to prolong winning sequence

Queens Park Rangers

Norwich City . BY IVO TENNANT

A CLUB with the traditions of Queens Park Rangers would spend Nationwide League first division. That and play some decent football

besides. With their expensive signings from Chelsea to the fore -Gavin Peacock scored the opening goal from John Spencer's header they gained a victory that was their fifth in succession.

the start of the match, so perhaps it was no surprise that the deciding goal was not scored until shortly before the finish. Dichio, a gangling presence amid Norwich City's defence, had a header cleared and McDermott, Rangers' new right from Australia, thump

the rebound from close range. The very fact that McDermott was in the opposition's penalty area at all so late in the match was indicative of Rangers' self-belief. They never countenanced a draw, although Norwich twice managed to equalise. One of these goals, an horrendous piece of mis-handling by Roberts, was the kind that would disconcert most teams. But not on this occasion.

The pick of the goals was the first. McDermott crossed to Spencer, whose cushioned header was volleyed past Gunn by Peacock during a period of play that Stewart Houston, the Rangers manager. described as their best of the season. Their passing and movement off the ball were, indeed, exceptional for

Roberts, alas, made the kind of mistake that afflicts many a goal-keeper at some stage of their

careers. Remember Gary Sprake selves at half-time and no longer throwing the ball into his own net to the dismay of Jack Charlton? This slip, too, came about through a lack of concentration. Crook's left-foot chip was harmless enough, but Roberts, momentarily distracted, let

the ball slip through his gloves. A minute later. Rangers ahead again. Dichio, receiving from Barker, slid his shot under the diving Gunn. Now Norwich, who have been out of form, had to counter the skills of a team looking to maintain a winning run and doing so in a style that bordered on cockiness. They reorganised thempermitted the likes of Sindair the opportunity to improvise.

Eadie had just had one volley saved by Roberts when he sped on to a through ball that Maddix, who had come on for McDonald in the first half, completely failed to cut him, the young forward thumped a left-footed drive past Roberts in a manner that bodes well for Norwich's future. Mike Walker, his manager, thinks so, at any rate.

That, it seemed, might well be that, but Rangers, in their last attack of the match, scored the

winner they deserved. McDermott, the scorer, should not even have been playing. He would have been with the Australia youth squad for a tournament in Tahiti had Houston not requested that his departure be

delayed until Sunday. Upon such managerial judg-

CUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-3-3). A Roberts — A McDermott, A McDornald (auth D Maddox, 36min), K Raady, R Bravett — S Barrer, G Peacock, M Brazder (auth: A Impey, 85) — T Sindar, D Dichio. J

NORWICH CITY (4-1-3-2). 8 Gunn — R Newmen. M. Jackson, J. Polston, D. Sutch — I Crook — N. Adens, M. Milligan, A Johnson — D. Eadle, K.O'Nelli Referes: M. Pierce

Port Vale inflict more woe on City

BY MEL WEBB

MANCHESTER CITY'S CUP of woe continues to spill liberal quantities of misery all over the cold kitchen floor in the basement of the Nationwide League first division. Yesterday it was the turn of Port Vale to make City yearn even more for 1996 to make its excuses and leave. Port Vale won 1-0 in front of

the biggest crowd of the season at Maine Road. The issue was settled by a scram-bled effort from Foyle in the 42nd minute; on the principle that beggars cannot be choosers. managerless City would be grateful for a few similarly untidy goals for themselves. Bolton Wanderers moved

back to the top with a 2-1 victory at Grimsby Town — Taggart and Blake were the Barnsley, the previous leaders, being beaten I-0 by Stoke City at the Victoria Ground, Sheffield United moved into second place after a 2-1 success over Bradford City.

Crystal Palace were beaten 3-1 at Ipswich Town, but stay above Wolverhampton Wanderers in fourth place by virtue of goals scored. It was Palace's second defeat of the season at Ipswich after a 4-1 scoreline in the Coca-Cola Cup. Ipswich took the lead with a disputed penalty, awarded for handball after Mason flicked the ball against Tuttle's arm. Tanner was the scorer.

Mason then scored with a 30-vard drive and, although Palace replied with a penalty by Gordon, Ipswich had the last word when Naylor scored from the edge of the area.

Brentford and Luton Town. the top teams in the second division, both had comfortable away victories, but Fulham saw their lead over Carlisle United in the third division cut to four points when held to a 1-1 draw by Exeter City.

Nicholl seeks retreat from the home front

Peterborough United 2 BY MEL WEBB

TO WATCH Jimmy Nicholl conduct a post-match press conference these days is to be irresistibly reminded of the phrase concerning straws. and the unavailing clutching of them by a drowning man. The Millwall manager is not a happy person, and no amount of all the goodwill stuff that is supposed to circulate at this time of year was going to shake him out of his gloom

A casual examination of the

top of the Nationwide League second division table might leave the disinterested bystander wondering what the ingst was all about. Agreed, Millwall had been beaten at home, but they were still fourth in the table, were they not? They still had something to play for, surely?

On the face of it, yes. However, a look into the facts behind the statistics reveals an altogether grislier tale. They have gone six games without a victory and have scored only one goal in that sorry spell.

Millwall's supporters are quite obviously sick to death of everything, including a distinct paucity in the entertainment department. All they need now is a plague of locusts and their misery will be

complete. The crowd were giving Millwall the bird long before the end of a first half that had been illuminated by two exceptional goals by Houghton. and although the introduction of the lively Dolby for the second half induced a temporary truce, the carcalls were ringing out again long before

"We've just got to hope that we can get something out of the next two games laway to Bristo! Rovers and Crewe Alexandraj," Nicholi said. "We need to be really

convincing at home to make the crowd happy, and I think the only way we're going to pull things around is to do something away from here." When a manager starts looking forward to away games. something unpleasant is undoubtedly afoot. His counterpart, Barry Fry, was, not surprisingly, much more

Houghton gave his side the lead in the lifth minute with a free kick from 22 yards that eluded the Millwall defensive wall and the goalkeeper. Carter, who had been injured in the warm-up and was soon replaced by Iga. a 19-year-old

league appearance. Houghton's second goal, after 26 minutes, was struck just as cleanly, this time from 25 yards out and on the volley. It beat Iga, hit the bar and went into the net. If that had happened to a Millwall shot, the ball would have bounced to safety. That is the way things go when you are on the crest of a slump.

MRLIMALL (4-4-2) T Carar (sub. A light 17mm) — G Liner (subr J van Blerk, 75), D Yichber A Rogan, M Harle — P Hartley, D Sindau, R Neeman J Dar (subr A Doby, 46) — 1/2 Bright S Crawford PETERBOROUGH UNITED (4-4-2) B Grotter — A Boothroyd, A Edwards, G Heato S Cash — 5 Houghton R Willis, D Parrie D Montson 1 auto L Boothars, Sti — K Charlety, M Cartathers (sub C Griffiths, 18)

Every man Jack rallies | Barnet battle through to to the Swansea cause

Hereford United Swansea City

BY OLIVER HOLT

THEY surged up the M4 from West Wales yesterday in their thousands. They bowed en masse to their saviour and player-manager, Jan Molby, when he took the field and carried flags proclaiming alliegance to Swansea Jack, a dog who used to rescue people from the town's murky docks. The Jacks" are all right now, but Hereford

United are in trouble. For the home team, floundering in the icy waters at the southernmost tip of the Football League, the only thing that came their way in terms of charity were bumper gate receipts fuelled by the influx of visiting fans. Rescuers are in short supply at this end of football.

It was a grim afternoon of little cheer at Edgar Street, at a club so impoverished that it has stopped giving programmes to journalists, and whose floodlights flickered so dimly when dusk fell yesterday it seemed as though the match might have to be abandoned. Even that kind of reprieve eluded the home side. Separated from the bottom of the Nationwide League third division only by the unfortunates of Darlington and Brighton, they are now without a win for 12 matches. condemned by a first-half strike from Penney that lifted Swansea into lifth

This time last year, it was the Welsh side that provided everyone with their favourite Christmas hard-luck story, in danger of not being able to fulfil a Boxing Day fixture at Bristol City because the chairman would not sanction the purchase of special boots

to cope with an icy pitch. That was before the arrival of Molby and now Swansea, after relegation last season, are among the promotion favourites. They dominated the first half and, after surviving their only scare when Stoker's acrobatic overhead kick was well saved by Freestone, they broke and Penney drove home the winner in the 23rd minute.

In the second half Hereford laid siege to the visitors' goal without creating any clear-cut chances. Only an announcement that the referee would take the players off the pitch if there was no halt to abusive behaviour by Swansea supporters seemed to give the home team hope. Nevertheless, they saved their best for last when Smith hit a 30-yard, dipping volley that was upped over the bar by Freestone.

There is a cantle market outside the ground here and sometimes they parade a bull around the pitch before the match. But of dogs, there was no HEREFORD UNITED (4-43) A deBort - 2 Marten 1.
Law, T Mantemers, M February - D Smith 15 Species 3
20 yaph (aut. A February - C Hargmans Y
Kortia, 3 Cross
SMANSEA GTTY (4-4-2) R February - S Jaron Y
Wabon M Eddebot M Gode - L Marten 1 Marty M
Armanou, 1 Coates - C Person 5 Force /
Referrer, C W Sec.

Mansfield Town..... By NICK SZCZEPANIK JUDGING by his restrained perfor-

mance on the touchline yesterday. Alan Mullery, like his team, has lost some of the ebullience of his early days as the manager at Barnet; perhaps they and he, like the 1,778 spectators, were frozen stiff.

Not a good day to see us." Mullery admitted, citing injuries and a pitch unlikely to help the passing style he encourages. Today you couldn't pass the ball. The public expect good football, of course they do, but they are not out there on a hard, slippery

As Barnet kicked down the Underhill slope into a flerce low sun. the early stages were more a question of the big boot than the beautiful game, despite the presence of one Gary Brazil in the Barnet attack. The long ball was. of course, meat and drink to Brian Kilcline, the veteran Mansfield central delender, who has seen more Boring Day action than most,

Further forward, Mansfield nearly took the lead when Sherlock's rising sho: demanded an elastic save from Taylor. However, the Barnet goalkeep-cr was helpless just short of the halfhour when an attempted headed clearance by Primus from Harper's iong shot looped over him into the net.

claim undeserved point When Barnet managed any sort of reply, the speed of Tomlinson on the right caused Mansfield problems, but nothing they could not deal with. The

go further behind when Hurst shot

home side badly missed the injured Sean Devine and were fortunate not to

wide with only Taylor to beat. Barnet had another surprising let-off in the second half when Barry Knight, the referee, was persuaded to change his mind upon consultation with his assistant after initially awarding a penalty when Primus tackled Hurst. dean through again, from behind, "Some of the decisions that are given still surprise me," Kilcline said after

the game.

The introduction of Samuels, Barnet's new signing from Boreham Wood, briefly encouraged the home side when his shot was blocked by Bowling's legs, but Mansfield always looked likely to add to their lead. Thus Brazil's late equaliser, a close-range header, was hard luck on Mansfield and especially Bowling, who nearly

kept it out.
If don't want to see Barnet play badly." Mullery said, "but today was a day for battlers, not passers. As a game of lootball, it was rubbish. But we got a

BARNET 164-21 M Toylor — K Raftray, L Pirmus, L Howarth S God — M Toylor Con P Wilson & Codfor Isuth D Sarracis, 45mml, P Sergeon — G Biggi TCamposit
MANSFIELD TOWN (3-5.7) | Bowling — B Kilohe
MANSFIELD TOWN (3-5.7) | Bowling — B Kilohe
SEssace W Highest — P Shertoos J Wisker, D Clarke,
S Wood S Harper — G Hazar (sub S Hadley, 81).

Bromsgrove repeat neighbours episode

By Walter Gammie

IT SHOULD have ranked as the sensation of the Vauxhall Conference season: Kidderminster Harriers, the leaders. seven wins and a draw in their past eight matches losing 2-1 to Bromsgrove Rovers, eighteenth, one win in their previous seven matches, before a bumper crowd of 6,081 at Aggborough. Yet, in truth, it came as no

surprise. It was just the routine Boxing Day win for Bromsgrove over their keen Worcestershire rivals: last season, it was 2-1 at the Victoria Ground; the year before, 1-0 at Aggborough. A bigger talking point was the attendance, the first of more than 6,000 in the Conference since Wycombe Wanderers' parting days in April 1993.

Lee Hughes, with his twentieth league goal of the sea-son, gave Kidderminster the lead in the 42nd minute, but Darren Grocutt, in the seventieth minute, and Mark Crisp, two minutes from time, sent the Bromsgrove supporters into raptures.

Kettering Town's eagerly anticipated first Conference meeting with Rushden and Diamonds fell victim to a frozen pitch, as did secondplaced Macclesfield Towa's trip to Altrincham and the Southport v Morecambe derby.

The home supporters among the 2,537 crowd at Eton Park, the biggest for a league match for more than 20 years, were happy enough as Simon Redfern and Micky Nuttell gave Burton Albion a 2-0 lead over Gresley Rovers in their Dr Martens League premier-division match. Gresley showed why they

are the league leaders by roaring back to clinch a 3-2 victory with goals by Kevin Allsop, Mark Blount and Mark Hurst, a substitute, who scored the winner five minutes from time.

Rangers reach milestone on their way to title

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

RANGERS chalked up a halfcentury of goals in the Bell's Scottish League premier division as they dismantled the bottom club, Raith Rovers, at Ibrox Stadium yesterday. First-half goals from Richard Gough, the captain, and the mercurial Paul Gascoigne ensured a fourth victory in less than a fortnight as the champions chase their ninth successive title.

Albertz added a third before McCoist scored Rangers' fiftieth league goal of the season with a 20-yard strike only ten minutes from time. The win put Walter Smith's side 17 points clear of Celtic before they kicked off the first of four games in hand at Aberdeen

It was a Boxing Day bash in more ways than one, such was Rangers dominance, and had they been playing by Queens-berry rules then Stuart Dougal, the referee, would surely have stopped the contest after 36 minutes. That was when Gascoigne raced more than half the length of the pitch to claim his fifteenth goal of the season.

Gough had broken the deadlock and by the time Albertz and McCoist weighed in, Scott Thomson, the Raith goalkeeper, must have had a headache if not a hangover given the pinball that was played out in front of his goal.

Gary McSwegan's fifth goal in only ten league starts set Dundee United up for their second successive home win and plunged Motherwell farther into relegation trouble.

Motherwell were left to rue

two bad misses -- one in either half - by the normally reliable Davies, although Dykstra, the former Motherwell goalkeeper, did distract

Cardiff City have said that Russell Osman — appointed only six weeks ago after Phil Neal's departure for Manchester City — is to remain as manager at Ninian Park. despite asking the director of football, Kenny Hibbitt, to take control of first-team affairs at the Nationwide League third division club.

the midfield player with his speed off the line. United made sure of the points when Hannah, the substitute, headed McLaren's corner past Woods from eight yards to

Jim McIntyre underlined

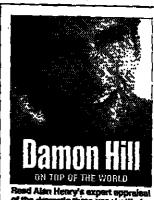
Warikes

relegation-threatened Kilmarnock's recent improvement by securing a crucial victory at Easter Road. The striker scored a splendid 42nd-minute goal to give his team second bottom before yesterday's games - their third win over Hibernian this season. However, the Edinburgh club were not helped by an injury crisis, which has laid low seven of their first team. Kilmarnock, who were the livelier side in the first half, almost scored in the third minute when Mitchell sent a

dipping shot just over. Midway through the first half. Bagen fired a left-footed volley straight at Leighton, before McIntrye started to problems for Hibernian.

First, he nipped between the defenders, Dods and Millen, before crashing a shot just over in the 25th minute. Then, seven minutes from half-time. his goalbound shot was tipped over by Leighton. The winner came when he sprinted on to a long ball out of defence and beat Leighton with an unstoppable, left-foot shot.

Steve Fulton gave Heart of Midlothian three points with a goal in the eightieth minute but Dunfermline were unfortunate not to pick up at least a point. They led twice, through Fleming and a superb strike by Moore, but an own goal and a penalty, both conceded by Miller, allowed Hearts back on terms. Rousset, in goal, then kept Dunfermline at buy at the death.



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FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN MELBOURNE

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MELBOURNE (first day of five: Australia won toss): West Indies, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 190.ruus behind Australia

A CROWD of 72,821, the third highest attendance on Boxing Day at the MCG, enjoyed an excellent opening day's play at the third Test. By virtue of the nine wickets they had in hand at the end, West Indies could claim to have had the better of proceedings, but they have played too poorly on this tour, for anybody, to start bragging and, if they are to pull back a Test against the two Australia have already won, much hard work lies

In the 13 overs left to them, after they had been dismissed for 219, Australia took the wicket of Campbell, who was leg-before to McGrath two balls after a searing bouncer had shaved his temple McGrath bowled beautifully. concering only six runs from as many overs and looking genuinely quick. On a pitch that rewards the quicker bowlers for their efforts, he could still emerge as Australia's matchwinner.

It was a day, though, when another potential matchwinner cast off his appalling recent form to reveal his true mettle. Until yesterday Curtly Ambrose had taken only five wickets on this tour, a record that had done nothing to restore his spirits. He is not the most communicative - or gracious - of men at the best of times, and these are by no means the best of times for West Indian cricket.

Here, as if in response to the thrill of one of the game's great occasions, he summoned one last mighty effort for the Melbourne crowd to remember him by. Figures of five for 55 told no lies. His morning spell gave him figures of three for eight from ten overs and at one stage, when Mark Waugh was leg-before first ball, to bring in his brother. Steve, on a hat-trick, he had three for

It may seem churlish, then, to mark him down but it has tobe said that he could have done better still. It took him all of 12 balls to compel the batsmen to play a stroke and had he pitched the ball up a



Up in arms: Adams, right, rushes to congratulate Ambrose after the West Indies fast bowler had dismissed Hayden, the Australia opener, caught at slip by Hooper

easily have been in even more of a mess than 27 for four. But he did bowl well when his tail was up and it required all of Steve Waugh's grit, and handy contributions from Blewett and Healy, to push the score beyond 200.

Hayden and Langer, the left-handers brought in to suffen the top order, both failed, though Langer, hesitating when Sieve Waugh called him for a sharp single, was a trifle unfortunate. He had just pulled Benjamin for six and was bedding down nicely when he was run out by Campbell, swooping from

Taylor, who needed 23 balls to get off the mark, had gone

Hayden, the tall Queenslander, did not survive Ambrose's fourth over. Looking to find runs through the offside on his favoured front foot, he edged the ball to second slip, where Hooper caught the first of his

three catches. Not for the first time, Steve Waugh rode to the rescue and he found, in Blewett, a partner who was prepared to match his diligence. Waugh sliced a cut past Samuels at third slip on four, and 12 runs later Walsh struck him painfully on the elbow, almost causing him to play on. He is a tough man, though, and had made 58 out of a stand worth 102 when Bishop, with the first ball of a new spell, induced the thin-

SCOREBOARD FROM MELBOURNE

AUSTRALIA: First Inning: "M A Taylor b Ambrose M L Hayden c Hooper b Ambrose

S R Waugh c Murray b Bishop
G S Blewett run out
11 A Healty c Hooper b Ambrose
P R Reiffet c Semuels b Benjamin
S K Werne c Campbell b Bishop
J N Gillespie not out
G D McGratin c Hooper b Ambrose Extras (fb 8, nb 17)

ground, convinced there was no contact, but he had to go. Blewett reached a fine halfcentury, sharing 66 runs for

BOWLING: Ambrose 24 5-7-55-5: Benja 19-2-84-1: Bishop 11-1-31-2; Welsh 1-43-0; Adams 1-0-4-0; Hooper 5-1-14-0. WEST INDIES; First Innings

Extras (10 1) Total (1 wkt) . B C Lara, C L Hooper, J C Adems, † J R Murray, K C G Benjaman, I R Bishop, C E L Ambrose and "C A Walsh to bet.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-12. BOWLING: McGrath 6-3-6-1; Retile! 5-0-21-0; Warne 1-0-1-0; Gillespie 1-1-0-0

who has now made 310 runs in this series. Ambrose went round the wicket to him and profited when a rather care-

wickets to fall in successive overs, the last belonging to Blewett, run out from midwicket, and Australia's total of 219 was at least 50 runs light of their expectations. Bishop and Ambrose each

hands. It was the first of three

and the second the second of t

greeted McGrath with a bouncer, so they can expect similar treatment when they bat. Ambrose owed his fifth wicket to a short ball that would have troubled a more capable batsman than Mc-Grath and he led the team off, having done his job a good deal better than Benjamin and Bishop, who never found a pleasing rhythm.

When Ambrose does retire, and it cannot be far away

RUGBY LEAGUE

Warriors sound a seasonal warning

RUGBY LEAGUE may have transformed itself into a summer sport, but some traditions die hard. Wigan and St Helens could not bear to be apart on Boxing Day, so they staged their familiar festive encounter anyway, 16,000 hardy souls turning up at Central Park to toast the spirit of

Christmases past. Although much remained the same, one of the names had been changed - but not to protect the innocent. Indeed, the innocents of the Super League will need all the protection they can get next season if Wigan Warriors are to be denied a return to their accustomed position at the game's high table, from which they were unceremoniously removed by St Helens last

season. Wigan, running out under the Warriors banner for the first time, made light of the absence of eight internationals, most of them still engaged in extra-curricular activities in rugby union.
Kris Radlinski, the centre,

ran in a first-half hat-trick and the reserve half-back pairing of Craig Murdock and Sean Long showed that they are going to be a force for the future, as the home side ran out winners 32-22.

After Murdock's chip kick to the corner put Radlinski over for his first try, Saints replied through Derek McVey, the Australian forward completing a superb cross-field move. Long's kick to the corner produced a carbon-copy try for Radlinski, who then raced onto a Steve Barrow pass to give Wigan a 16-6 lead at half-

David Murray and Lee Gilmore underlined Wigan's superiority with tries on their debuts, and although McVey's second touchdown provided some relief for St Helens, who were also missing four firstteam regulars, Danny Ellison went over in the corner to

complete the Wigan scoring. Lee Briers and Alan Hunte, the stand-off, then grabbed late touchdowns that may have given the visitors some hope for the return fixture at Knowsley Road in the new

Across the Pennines, 13,600 watched Halifax win a challenge match at Leeds, Martin Moana's 56th-minute try clinching a 14-6 victory and a cheque for £10,000.

Neither coach will have taken much from the first return to action after a twomonth break, but the supporters clearly enjoyed being back in the cold.

Ali Davys, the former Salford scrum-half, scored a try as Huddersfield, of the first division, beat Keighley 40-10 in front of a crowd of 5,035 at the McAlpine Stadium. Davys was one of eight new signings in the Huddersfield side.

HOCKEY

Roses clash ruled out by weather

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

FOR the second year in succession, the traditional Boxing Day match between Lancashire and Yorkshire was abandoned yesterday because the pitch at the Northern Club. Great Crosby, near Liverpool. was frozen.

Earlier in the day, the under-21 match between Cheshire and Lancashire went ahead. Cheshire winning 2-0 with a goal in each half by Brogden and Hill. However, conditions deteriorated and the senior match was called

The strong Cheshire side included four players from Cannock, the national league champions: Ashcroft, Edwards, Pidcock and the season's top scorer. Robert Crutchley, whose brothers Sam, of Firebrands, and Andrew, of Neston, were also chosen to play.

Jon Molloy, of Surbiton, will lead the attack for the Cheam Presidents' XI in the Dick Hollands memorial match against the Cheam XI on the artificial turf pitch at the London Transport ground North Cheam, tomorrow.

☐ England will face strong opposition in the golden jubilee tournament in Karachi from March 16 to 23. Four other visiting sides - Holland, the Olympic champions, Germany. Australia and South Korea, the Asian champions - will join Pakistan, the World Cup holders, in the sixnation competition.

Prasad strikes to give India control | Captain halts England charge

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

DURBAN (first day of five; India won toss): India, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 223 runs behind South

INDIA, spearheaded by a fine display by Venkatesh Prasad. took the honours on the first day of the first Test match against South Africa at Kingsmead in Durban

Prasad and Srinath, his new ball partner, proved a handful for the South Africans on a well-grassed pitch, Prasad finishing with five for 60 and Srinath with two for 36 as India bowled out their hosts for 235. They finished the day having scored two without loss from the two remaining

The first indication that the seam bowlers would dominate came when South Africa left out Adams, their uporthodox left-arm spinner, but it was Tendulkar, the India captain, who won the toss in the

first match of the three-Test

It took fewer than four overs for Prasad to make his mark when, with eight runs on the board, Kirsten, who had made two, had his off stump removed. The fast bowlers were then frustrated until lunch by Hudson and Adam Racher. the Transvaal batsman on his debut, who steered the home

interval, for 25, and Hudson

side to 70 for one.

Bacher, however, fell to the first ball from Srinath after the

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

C Hudson e Mongia b Ganguly ..

A C Huddon o Mongle D Ganglary
G Kinsten b Prassed
A M Bacher low b Srinath
D J Cullimen c Mongle b Prassed
"W J Cronle c Mongle b Prassed
H H Globs c Mongle b Johnson
B M McMillen low b Johnson
S M Pollock not out

Africa collapse as Cullinan (1), Cronje (15) and Gibbs (0) were all sent back to the pavilion and the home side were reel-

BOWLING: Srineth 20-7-36-2; Presed 19-6-80-5; Johnson 15-2-52-2; Tendulica: 2-4-2-0-0; Kumble 20.2-3-61-0; Ganguly 9-4-12-1.

(NDIA: First linnings

BOWLING: Donald 1-0-1-0, Pollock 1-0-1-0

Umpires: S Durne (New Zealand) and D Occient (South Africa).

VS Rethore not out

Total (no wid) ...

ing at 113 for five. Hudson went on to make the top score with 80 before falling to the occasional bowler, Ganguly. His innings was combative rather than flawless; he was dropped on 39 and 75, and given another life when caught in the slips off a no-ball from Prasad.

Ganguly had been pressed into service after Tendulkar to leave the field for was left to weather a South

treatment to a torn muscle under the rib cage after bowling 16 balls in the morning

Tendulkar returned later in the second session but, while the injury is not expected to hamper his batting, there is little chance that he will bowl again in the match.

With Hudson gone, the South Africa tail showed some resistance with McMillan (34). Pollock (23 not out) and Richardson (24) all making contri-

But such were the conditions that Mongia took five catches behind the stumps, the strangest of them, an edge that dismissed Klusener for one. Prasad had two attempts at holding the chance at second slip, only to succeed in popping it up for Mongia to grab one-handed.

Rathore and Raman, the India openers, weathered two extremely hostile overs from Donald and Pollock, an indication of what lies ahead against South Africa's all-pace

By Our Sports Staff

A DOGGED fightback by Pakistan Under-19 thwarted England after they had made a superb start to the first day of the final international in Lahore

Ben Hollioake, of Surrey, removed three of the top four batsmen to reduce Pakistan to 29 for four after they had won the toss. However, Ahmad Saeed, the captain, made a stubborn unbeaten 65 and received excellent support from Abdur Razzak, who contributed 57 to a sixth-wicket stand of 97. By the close Pakistan had recovered to

reach 189 for six. Saeed had started the recovery after the pitch lost its early venom by sharing in a fifth-wicket partnership of 55 with Bazid Khan. Phil Neale, the England manager, said: "While the ball was new, it swung about a bit and Tudor, Hollicake and Franks all

bowled well to put us right on top.
"Once the shine went off the ball, though, there was virtually no movement and no bounce - and there was no assistance for the spinners, so Pakistan were able to dig in and mount a slow but steady

The morning session tomorrow will be interesting because the new ball is due straightaway."

Meanwhile, the Pakistan

senior team suffered a 63-run

defeat against Queensland. Seeking match practice before the one-day international against Australia on New

Year's Day, Pakistan were bowled out for 123. Adam Dale, the seam bowler, finished with figures of five for 27 from ten overs after sharing in an unbeaten 76-run ninth-wicket partner-

ship with Andrew Bichel, his fellow pace bowler, which took

problems before the match with Australia A tomorrow. Wasim said the team needed one or two batsmen to have lengthy innings. "If we are going to win any competition or any game we need to play 50 overs," he said. "Going in with five batsmen

hole to fill than those who

came before, particularly as

Walsh is approaching the end

of his own career. There

simply are not the bowlers any

more in the Caribbean, which

is why this series marks the

end of a notable chapter in

Now is the time for Lara to

adom this occasion with the

runs he has so far withheld

from the Australian public

this winter. To win this Test,

and give themselves a fighting

chance of squaring the series,

he must not let West Indies

down. Mind you, there is a

Victorian leg spinner playing before his home crowd, of

whom as much is expected.

And, unlike Lara, Shane

Oueensland from 110 for eight

to 186 for eight. Moin Khan,

the wicketkeeper, top scored

for Pakistan with 27 from their

The defeat came five days

after Pakistan's abysmal in-

nings defeat against Tasma-

nia when they were bowled

out for 67 in their second

Wasim Akram, the captain,

and Mushtaq Mohammed,

the coach, immediately called

a team meeting for today in an

effort to sort out the team's

50 overs.

modern cricket.

it means one or two of them, at least, need to stay for 50 overs. They have to apply themselves. They realise what they did wrong and we will be better off against Australia A."

Komen focuses new year sights on double Bannister

ust another Kenyan distance runner? Hardly. The European market may be flooded with treasures from Africa but Daniel Komen sparkles more brightly than any other gem from his continent. Already, at 20, Komen's track times have made his brilliant compatriots of the recent past - Ondicki, Ngugi, Kiptanui - seem like three-legged

However, it is one performance that lies ahead, one which Komen regards as a priority for 1997, that surely will plant his greatness into the minds of the British public before it is recognised through a world championship and Olympic gold-medal collection. Four decades after Roger Bannister became the first man to run one mile in less than four minutes, it seems a formality that Komen will be first to put

together two without a break. Given time, Komen may want to know more about Bannister, and that historic day in Oxford in 1954, but he confessed to never having heard of Bannister. Of the eight minute barrier, though he said: "I want to put it in the history books."

It is a mark of Komen's dedication that he cut short his holiday, leaving his family home in Nyaru on

Christmas Day, to fly to Britain in time to be rested for the Bupa County Durham cross country tomorrow. Each of his six crosscountry races this winter, Komen said, was important to his strength preparation for next summer.

235

His programme does not include the world cross-country championships. His eyes are fixed towards next summer and he is likely to be in Australia training at the time of the Kenyan trials. Uppermost in his mind is a world title in Athens in August, having failed to make the Kenya team for the Olympics.

He wants to be known for more than his world record pursuits. "I am the 3,000 metres world recordholder but without having any world championships or Olympic gold medals," Komen said. "I am training for the world championships and cross country is part of

building up." Komen took over last summer from Noureddine Morceli as the most prolific attacker of middledistance world records. He cut an

extraordinary 4.44sec from Morceli's 3,000 metres world record, set a two miles world best of 8min 3.54sec, and had three other near misses at world records, including running to within a second of Haile Gebrselassie's 5,000 metres mark.

David Powell meets a young Kenyan with the world at his feet and

his mind fixed on a record of special significance to British athletics

The 7min 20.67sec that Komen ran for 3,000 metres was the biggest improvement since Kip Keino's 7min 39.6sec in 1965. About 240 yards short of two miles, his time suggests a two miles equivalent under 7.56mm. It surprised even him. "I was wondering whether it was me who broke that record," he was thinking as he finished.

Text door to the house in Teddington where Kim Mc-Donald's group of Kenyans stay when training in London there is a pub. How often do they go in? "Only when we have something to celebrate." Ibrahim Kinuthia, a marathon runner, said. Pub trade from the neighbours should keep busy with Komen around.

No more will Komen's mother

need to sell potatoes by the road. "I told her to concentrate on other jobs, home jobs," Komen said. With his new wealth. Komen has bought a farm in Nyaru from which the rest of his family - seven brothers and six sisters - earn a living. When he won the men's overall grand prix in Milan in September, shading Jonathan Edwards, his \$250,000 pay-day was the biggest prize-fund taken from an athletics arena.

His total income last year was double that and this young man, who hails from a country where to own a few goats is regarded as wealth, is moving quickly towards millionaire status. "The deals only started becoming big for him near to the grand prix final," a spokesman for the McDonald agency said. "Zurich had a big impact on people's perception of how good he is." Zurich, where he thrashed Gebrselassie with 12min 45.09sec for 5,000 metres, came two weeks before his 3,000 metres world record.

Komen's first conquest as an athlete came at the age of eight. He record-breaking, lucrative, year.

a sportsfield with the local high school. When students from his neighbouring school lined up for a 10,000 metres track race, Komen asked to join them. "It was 1984, I was eight, and I think they were 18," he recalled. He had a job convincing them to let him run.
They feared I would not com-

plete it," Komen said. He finished minth and had to be stopped after 25 laps because he had lost count. How many finished behind him? Few prolonged their embarrassment. Most of them dropped out because I beat them," Komen recalled. His story of running to and from

school is typical of Kenyan athletes and, by the age of 12, he was clocking 12 miles a day. He would run three miles from home to school and back again twice a day. "I was training without knowing, coming home for lunch then going back to school," he said.

To relax, Komen spends time on the family farm. "I like driving the tractor and milking," he said. "I have 12 cows." And goats? "I don't have any goats. Maybe next year," he said with a cheeky grin. Which means that he expects another



John Hopkins continues a review by Times writers of sporting highlights of 1996

Norman's world collapses into nightmare

t was quiet in the restau-rant at the Partridge Inn in Augusta on the morning of Sunday, April 14, as Dave Marr patrolled the breakfast buffet, helping himself to tea, toast and yoghurt before retiring to a corner table with the newspapers and a cigarette. There he peered over his half-moon spectacles and spoke of what might unfold later on the last day of the Masters.

It's going to be interesting." Marr said repeatedly in his Texas drawl. Whereas these words can sound banal, when spoken by Marr, a professional golfer for most of his life, they seemed invested with extra significance. It was as if the 1965 US PGA champion, now a much respected television commentator on both sides of the Atlantic, knew that something was afoot. Yet even he could not have guessed precisely what would occur when Greg Norman started the fourth round with a sixstroke lead over Nick Faldo. All we suspected

was that something would hap-'In victory pen because it almost always did Faldo on the Sunday of the Masters. spoke generous

words'

Look at the way Ed Sneed lost a three-stroke lead with three holes remaining in 1979.

Ballesteros hit a four-iron into the water in front of the 15th green just as Nicklaus, then 46, was charging through the field to win in 1986. Think of Sandy Lyle's fantastic bunker stroke on the last hole in 1988 and Nicklaus's 45-foot putt on the 16th in 1975. How did Fred Couples's ball defy gravity on the bank of the 12th hole when he won in 1992, and what extraordinary influence was it that spirited Gene Sarazen's ball into the hole for an albatross two on the 15th in

It did not take long after Norman and Faldo had teed off to realise that golfing history was unfolding in front of our eyes. Norman failed to get his par from a bunker on the first, bogeyed the 4th pulled his approach to the 8th, and made a mistake with his second to the 9th. Faldo, olf, scoring well and Masters to end like this. piling the pressure on to



outward half of 34, he had closed to within two strokes.
On the 10th, Norman

missed the green by inches but chipped poorly and two-putted and on the 11th he missed a three-foot putt for his par. On the 12th, Faldo moved into a two-stroke lead when Norman's seven-iron tee shot enfive to Faldo's three.

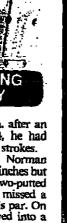
No matter where you were at this time the atmosphere was extraordinary. For Laura Norman. Greg's wife, and following Greg that afternoon

must have resem-bled walking behind a condemned man to the gal-Laura?" Williams was asked on the l0th. "She's a wreck," he replied. As Norman's ball

the water on the 12th, Williams silently put a consoling arm around Laura's shoulders. Even the spectators had become silent and uneasy. "I feel

The nered press room at Augusta is normally a place of laughter and jokes, where some journalists still crash away at typewriters while others peck silently at their computers. Some even watch the golf. This time, however. the people in this large room watching one of the saddest

The fourth rounds of major championships are often magnificent demonstrations of mental fortitude as much as physical skill. Look at Ballesteros at Lytham in 1988. Norman at St George's in 1993, Tom Watson and Nicklaus at Turnberry in 1977 and again at Pebble Beach in 1982. No one wanted the 1996



disappeared into

sick to my stomach." one said.

were eerily quiet. They were



par-five 13th, Norman staged something of a rally by holing from 14 feet for a birdie to match Faldo's four. On the next, Norman got a steady par four whereas, to get his par, Faldo had to produce the stroke of the round from within the trees on the right. Norman almost chipped for an eagle three on the

Norman's rally only heightened what had happened be-fore. Surely he could not throw away eight strokes to Faldo and then get back into conten-

Indeed, he could not. On the 16th, Norman hit into the guardian pond and Faldo moved four strokes ahead. A final flourish of a birdie on the

jacket and his sixth major championship victory. There had been an 11-stroke swing from Norman to Faldo in the

In victory. Faldo showed a degree of grace and sympathy that had not been expected and he spoke some generous words to Norman as they embraced on the 18th green. Later he said: "I hope the tournament is remembered for my shooting a 67 in the last round and not for what happened to Greg. Unfortunately I think they'll remember

Poor Norman went through the rest of the day with his At this point the story takes 18th gave him victory by five and the glare of publicity.

courage as anyone could have shown. And perhaps if Norman had been paired with any player other than Faldo. it not have been

When the day was over, the mind went back to what Marr had said. Rarely have the words "it is going to be interesting" been borne out so accurately. It was not just the most interesting day of the year: it may have been the most memorable sporting day of the past quarter of a

TOMORROW

Oliver Holt recalls the penalty demons at Euro 96



Norman receives a consoling hug from his conqueror

SAILING: SPIRIT OF GOODWILL WIDESPREAD AS BRITON GOES TO RESCUE OF FELLOW COMPETITOR WHILE CHALLENGE CREW RALLY ROUND SKIPPER

Goss finds entente on the high seas

BY EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT

PETE GOSS, of Great Britain, who has recently enjoyed his best week's racing in the Vendee Globe single-handed non-stop round-the-world race, was last night attempting to rescue one of his fellow competitors after being asked to divert from his course by race headquarters in Paris.

Goss, on his Adrian Thompson-designed "Open 50" Aqua Quorum, was going to wind-ward in 40-50 knots trying to get to the stricken Frenchman. Raphael Dinelli, who got into trouble on Christmas Day. deep in the Southern Ocean about 1.200 miles southwest of

In a brief message to The Times yesterday. Goss indicated that he had, himself. experienced several knockdowns in the same storm that has put Dinelli out of the race and now in grave danger. Very had last night, he reported, "trying to get to him - knocked down many times. Am 25 miles away, cross your fingers, night setting in and forecast 40 knots."

It is not known exactly what happened to Dinelli, whose yacht Algimouss is the old Credit Agricole IV. However, on Christmas Day he reported very heavy conditions with winds gusting in excess of 70 knots. Two hours later two of his emergency radio beacons were activated, indicating he was in trouble.

The closest competitor to him was the Belgian skipper. Patrick de Radigues, on Afibel just 84 miles away, but he could not be contacted by



Paris because both his radio and his satellite fax are broken. Goss, whose radio is also broken for the second time in the race, was 150 miles away

Early yesterday a Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) rescue aircraft spotted both Dinelli and Goss. The crew reported that Dinelli waved to them but that his yacht was lying on its side with its mast still intact. There appeared to be damage at the bow which was down in the water. Dinelli was reported last night to have boarded a life raft on instructions from the RAAF rescue

but the next closest.

Dinelli, aged 28 from Bordeaux, is a very experienced sailor with more than 11.000 miles under his belt prior to the race. But his status in the race has always been controversial. Although he started with the rest of the field, he has not formally been admitted to the Vendee Globe because he failed to complete his 2,000mile qualifying sail within the time allotted by the race committee. He was thus an "unclassified" entrant who

could not win, though he was

in a nominal eighth position when he got into trouble.

Goss, meanwhile, has had a terrific last week during which he has averaged among the highest speeds in the fleet in excess of 12 knots. This has taken him from ninth up to seventh, moving back ahead of de Radigues and Catherine Chabaud on Whirlpool Europe 2. Yesterday he was only 450 miles behind Eric Dumont of France, in sixth place. The race leader, 2,500 miles east of Goss. is still Christophe Auguin, also of

France, on Geodis. Race headquarters firmed vesterday that Goss will be eligible for redress for time lost rescuing Dinelli. Philippe Jeantot, the race director, said it would be up to the two skippers what they did next. Goss might drop Dinelli at New Zealand or somewhere

near Cape Horn. Jeantot added that Goss's performance in the only 50looter in the race was making him many friends and admirers in France. "He has sailed a very, very good race and proved his seamanship." Jeantot said.

Donovan receives backing from crew of Heath Insured

BY EDWARD GORMAN

THE crew of the BT Global Challenge yacht. Heath Insured II. have railied round their skipper, Adrian Donovan, after a report in The Times that he may be sacked by Chay Blyth when he gets to

Wellington.
In a letter to The Times, the crew said they are particularly keen to correct impressions given by sources familiar with the yacht and its sponsor, the City insurance firm, C.E. Heath, that morale on board Heath Insured II. which is limping along in last place, is not all that it could be.

in a message signed by everybody on board except Donovan himself, the crew say they do not wish to get involved in any dispute, "actual or alleged, between Adrian Donovan. Chay Blyth or the Heath Group," but go on to say that it is "simply not true" that morale and motivation

"Crew spirits are high and we look forward to continuing FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

on together from Wellington after a well-deserved break. We all have the utmost respect for Adrian Donovan as a seaman and skipper and would strongly oppose any attempt to replace him," the

The letter follows disclosures that Donovan and Blyth fell out badly last week after the yacht suffered a serious rig failure which has put it out of contention for this leg. Donovan told Blyth he considered the race to be no more than a "farce" with six boats carrying damaged rigs. Blyth responded by warning he will be sacked in New Zealand.

The fleet, meanwhile, has been doing its best to enjoy Christmas. On Toshiba Wave Warrior, now in third place, two volunteers prepared a lunch of turkey, chipolatas, mash, stuffing, peas, cranberry jelly, roast potatoes and carrots, followed by Christ-mas pudding with brandy butter and vanilla sauce.

crew reported excellent sailing conditions on Christmas Day, with gales that had been forecast failing to appear. There were champagne, Christmas cards and presents for all on board plus the chance to listen to taped messages recorded by relatives before the yacht set sail from Rio. "It was a Christmas that none of us will ever forget, but definitely not one to be repeated," the crew reported.

On Commercial Union the

The leader is still the victor in the first leg. Mike Golding on Group 4, who has 500 miles to sail to Wellington. He is being chased hard in lightish conditions by Aody Hindley's Save The Children, which is about 30 miles astern. Toshiba is in third, followed by a thicket of boats fighting it out for fourth, led by Global Teamwork and followed by Motorola, Pause To Remember, Commercial Union and Nuclear Electric.

THE ME Scotland cheered by stirring return

ROB WAINWRIGHT, the Scotland rugby union captain last season, gave the Scots selectors early new year cheer after making a try-scoring return for Watsonians against Heriot's FP.

Wainwright, who has been out of action since returning from Scotland's summer tour of New Zea-land, said: "I'm just pleased to be back in the game. The first game back is always difficult. I felt I lasted the pace for 60 minutes and now desperately need more rugby." An Achilles tendon prob-

lem has sidelined Wainwright but he proved his skills are still sharp by crashing over for an early try. Gavin Hastings also scored a try, but Watsonians were eventually overhauled 34-27 by Heriots, for whom Elliot Bunney, the former Olympic sprinter, scored three

Col

Graf withdraws

Tennis: Steffi Graf, the world No 1, has withdrawn from the Hopman Cup in Perth next week because of a virus. She had been expected to play in the mixed team tournament

with Bernd Karbacher. Graf is now said to be planning to fly to Melbourne at the end of next week to prepare for the Australian Open, which begins on January 13.

Deal disputed

Rugby league: Workington have complained to the Rugby Football League over Oldham's announcement that they had signed the centre, Vince Fawcett. Workington, who were relegated from the Super League last season, maintain they still hold Fawcett's registration in Britain after his short spell for Parramatta.

Petworth upset

Real tennis: Seacourt pulled off the biggest upset of the national inter-club championship, the Field Trophy, when they defeated the holders and strong favourites. Petworth, in the semi-final. Matthew Blackey and Martin Higney secured the 3-2 victory in the doubles.

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1.5

Robinson loss

Football: Bobby Robinson. the former Scotland player, has died at his Forfar home at the age of 46. Robinson. who won four caps in 1974 and 1975, enjoyed a successful career spanning three decades. He played for Falkirk, Dundee, Dundee United, Heart of Midlothian and Raith Rovers.

Smith out

Swimming: Graeme Smith, the Olympic bronze medal-winner has been forced to pull out of next month's world short course championships in Gothenburg because of educational commitments.

White sacked

American football: Mike White has been dismissed as coach of Oakland Raiders - the fifth National Foothall League coach to lose his job in five days.

CYCLING

Obree gears up for trip to New Zealand

By PETER BRYAN

GRAEME OBREE, Britain's events - to prepare for a world pursuit champion in 1995, has recovered from leginjuries sustained when a gas evlinder fell on him and will make his return to competition in New Zealand next

"I have just started training again, concentrating on strength work, which means pushing a high gear up some of our local climbs," Obree said from his home in Irvine. "My form is not as good as I would want but in view of the health problems I have had during the past season, I am

Obree's aim is to use his three-week tour of New Zealand - where he expects to but good enough to please him race in road and track in chilling conditions.

serious, competitive pro-gramme in the United Kingdom on his return, starting with local time-trials. Obree said that his commit-

ment to international events will be governed by the aid he receives. He has had tentative talks with a potential sponsor. Robin Jackson marked his

change of club - from Reading CC to Hounslow and District - with a one-second victory in the Essex Roads tenmile trial near Chelmsford yesterday. He beat local specialist, Martin Meads. of Romford, with a time of 23min 31sec, more than three minutes outside his personal best

AMERICAN FOOTBALL HONOLULU: Aloha Bowl: Nava 42 Califar-**ATHLETICS**

can furnisarios, 1967 E.Y. Buddi-Miling-com, 2005 E.Y. Saseria, Milingdom 21.22. Vetenani T. Taury, Landom Institu 22.23. Vetenani T. Taury, Landom Rominesi Cauti 30-minutes Papifach 1. S. Fa thicther (Botta Rasiria), and D. Anderson (Bergrave) 6m 377yd NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (1984). LA Lakers 108 Phoenix 87, Chicago 35 Detroit 83 ROAD WALKING: Prestor, Park, Brighton (Sám) 1. Sugrimen Surey NO 48 48, 2 A Penteral Staymort S1 35 ST GLOBAL CHALLENGE LATEST POSITIONS Second leg Rio de Janeiro to Wellington 6,600 maes 165*W

170 W DISTANCE TO WELLINGTON: 1. Group 4 514 miles: 2. Save The Chadren 551, 3. Toshib Ware Warror 532 5 (5): tha Tourneyor 662 5 Macarda 679 6 Pauco To Renember 639.

CAHORE: Under-19 International (first day of lous): Paratar 183-6 (Alarmo Seed 65 not out) + England SUPERSPORT SERVES: Paul jirst day of bout! Boland 170 (A P Kuper 74) and 2-0. Northern Transmer: 117 (M S Williams RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB MATCHES: Huddensield 40 Keep-ley 10: Leeds 6 Huden 14 Wigan 32 St Helem 22: Postponed: Badey v Dowsbury, Victoristan v Carisle. **RUGBY UNION** CLIB MATCHES. Melrose 31 Gaia 12. Northampton 41 East Mel ands 3 Restrain 19 Camborn 19. Watsonans 27 Hereits FP 45 Editorial Acad 51 February Borderers 40 London Insh 95 Clid McMagns 12. es an uneven miss so a monage of a Cancelled Bragerd v Masseley, Hartegook Rates v Mich Huffegook Harrak v ded-Forest Raiso v Sekuk, Newcodo v Nactivern, Stourbridge v Gudley

FIXTURES FOOTBALL FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premuer division: Shampock v

OTHER SPORT ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Man-chester v Cordiff (7 30).

SNOW REPORTS Queensland 186-8. Pakistanis 123 (A Dale 5-28) (5pm) Last "C snow Conditions Runs to Off/p ANDORRA Soldeu 150 good vaned AUSTRIA Kitzbühel tar varied (Pistes good despite odd toy patch lower down) Opergurgi -9 26/12 St Anton 75 240 good varied for tog 9 25/12 (Moguis forming on upper runs, lower runs herd)
130 150 good varied good fine 4 25/12 (Some powder remains though odd icy patch)
80 240 good varied icy fine -10 25/12 (Lower runs somewhat icy, great skiing higher up)
95 180 good varied good sun -6 26/12 (Light dusting on good base creating great skiing) OCCC varied Avoriaz ITALY : 110 240 good varied good line -6 23/12 (Perfect conditions on all pistes, same powder) 70 230 good varied fair sun -15 23/12 (Enjoyable slaing despite vary cold temperatures) Livigno , SWITZERLAND-0 170 good varied good (Etcellent sking on well-groomed pistes) 5 (210 good varied good (Great sking both on end of piste, cold) 0 250 good varied fair 90 250 good varied fair (Excellent base though hardpacked, no queu

IN BRIEF Scotland cheered * by stirring $ret_{ur_{1\!\!1}}.$

Craf willdge

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Smith 25

William Cold

THE WALL PRINTS



O The difference in total runs scored in the match between England and Zimbabwe as England's heroes very nearly beat the world's weakest Test match nation.

O The number of times Scotland have qualified for the second round of the football World Cup finals. Kindly submitted by a Scottish gentleman.

O The number of goals scored by John Radford for West Ham United, after his transfer from Arsenal, where he scored 111 in 375 appearances. Kindly submitted by West Ham gentleman

0.0014 The amount by which Linford Christie false-started at the second attempt in the 100 metres final in

1 Sri Lanka's finishing position in the cricket World Cup. But they still don't get a game in England.

1 The number of Olympic gold medals won by Great Britain this year.

Or perhaps 2 x 2: the number of Limes Manchester United have done the Double. No one else has

The number of games the L pusillanimous Australians forfeited in the cricket World Cup, on the grounds that it would be difficult to do their shopping.

2 The number of balls bowled before Dickie Bird gave Michael Atherton out leg-before in his final Test match as umpire.

2 Or perhaps 3 x 3. The number Of hat-tricks taken by Dean Headley for Kent last season.

3 The number of gold medals won by Michelle Smith, the Irish swimmer, at the Olympic Games.

3 The number of London Marathons won by Dionicio Cerón.

4 The number of Olympic long-jump gold medals won by Carl

4 The number of football clubs that have gained admission to the Football League since automat-

4 The number of goals scored by England against Holland.

4 Steve Redgrave.

5 Steve Redgrave.

5 The number of goals from the leading scorer of Euro 96, Alan

5 The margin by which Nick Faldo won the US Masters.

6 The margin by which Greg Norman led the US Masters going into the final round.

The number of Gareth 6 Southgate's shirt, in which he took penalty No 6 for England Counting the winners and losers in the great numbers game of sport

Magic numbers hold an eternal significance for sport, figures that carry the whiff of greatness and the stench of defeat. Simon Barnes again invited suggestions for the

magic numbers of all time and of the passing year: here are some that cover the enduring fortunes of Steve Redgrave, Frankie Dettori and Nick Faldo and the

misfortunes of Gareth Southgate and the England football team. The highest reflect the growing influence of enormous salaries and transfer fees in some sports

7 Frankie Dettori.

7 The number of goals conceded by Wales (against Holland) on the first appearance as captain of the lachrymose Vinnie Jones.

7 The number of wickets by which Mashonaland beat England -earlier this month.

The number of wins in ten attempts recorded by the team of Simon Sherwood and Desert

O The number of Olympic gold medals won by Carl Lewis over the past four Olympiads.

9.712 The mark recorded by Rerri Strug, the gymnast, in the vault that she completed with an injured ankle, thus ensuring victory for the United States in the team event at the Olympic Games.



Strug: vaulted to victory

9.84 Donovan Bailey's world record in the 100 metres at the Olympic Games. The mark set by the drug-addled Ben John-son, 9.79 seconds, remains the time

9.99 The amount in pounds for the first pay-per-view sporting event in Britain, this being the Bruno-Tyson fight.

12 The number of points by which Newcastle United led the FA Carling Premiership in January last season; they finished second to Manchester United.

13 The number of runs England required to beat Australia in a Test match in 1902 when Rhodes and Hirst decided "we'll get 'em in

13 Number of gold medals owned by Steve Redgrave: four Olympic, six world, three Commonwealth.

14 The age claimed in years of the Pakistan Test player

15 The total number of Olympic medals won by Great Britain

16 The number of games played for Leeds United by Ian Rush before he scored.

17 The seeding of Richard Krajicek, the Wimbledon champion, from Holland.

18 Durham County Cricket Club

as in 18. Durham (18); previous season's position in

19 The number of points by which Damon Hill won the Formula One drivers' championship, despite his constant flirtation

19.32 The man with the golden shoes.

20 The odds, offered by William Hill, against Phil de Glanville becoming England rugby union captain.

22.69 The slowest time in the 100 metres heats at the Olympic Games, recorded by J. Zirignon, of Ivory Coast.

24 Number of ducks in the Test match career of Danny Mor-rison, the New Zealand fast bowler and part-time batsman.

29 End-of-year ranking of Tim Henman; a feat hailed as the greatest achievement in the history

29 The number of seasons since the war in which Manchester United have recorded the highest average attendance.

30 The number of matches in the cricket World Cup required to eliminate four teams.

31 The record number of appearances on the final day of the Open golf championship, set by Jack Nicklaus this year.

33 The number of days Steve Coppell stayed in charge of Manchester City.

33 The number of goals scored by Cliff Bastin from the leftwing in 1932-33. I can't think why we haven't had this one before.

34 The record number of points scored against England at Twickenham, set by the tautologically-named New Zealand

35 The number of penalties it took to knock Galatasaray out of the Turkish Cup.

WINNERS

meran Fruitratte

MANY thanks to everyone who submitted magic num-bers: a rich and high-quality entry was there to greet the third year of this now-traditional year-ender. There were, inevitably, a large number of duplications. A good few of the all-time numbers (like Bradman's average) have been seen here before, and so miss out. Otherwise, multiplicity of entry and earliness of response were the main criteria used as tie-breaker, when all else failed, the winner was drawn from a hat.

Profound commiserations to all those who so narrowly missed out; best congratula-tions to the following, who win a bottle of ambrosial Nicolas Feuillatte champagne:

WINNERS: E Armitage, S Baldwin, A Brodkin, M Butterworth, D Carr, M Claughton, S Connolly, T Disecoglu, A Franks, D Greenwood, SS Gupta, T Hackett, M Herbert, M J Horne, K Lowe, P McArthur, D Morgen, P C Mapp, H Mellor, K Pika, C Rogers, J Sabey, R Scrulon, N Silver, A Spencer, B Trowbridge, D Twydelf, M Willerns.

37 The number of balls it took. Shahid Afridi, the Pakistan 7 The number of balls it took batsman, to score a one-day international century.

39 The at-rest heartbeat of Gordon Pirie, the great distance

40 The number of games in the French Open tennis women's singles final, in which Steffi Graf beat Arantxa Sánchez Vicario 6-3, 6-7, 10-8.

40 The numbers of years of European competition it took before Manchester United were defeated at Old Trafford.

43 Wigan's run (which ended this year) of unbeaten matches in the rugby league Challenge Cup, a record likely to last as long as rugby league.

52 Lowest number of points South Africa recorded by a side that won Emirates. the league - Chelsea in 1955.

56.37 The number of kilometres covered by Chris Boardman in an hour to set a new cycling world record.

7 Score recorded by the Essex 57 Score recorded by the Cricket team at Lord's in the NatWest Trophy final in reply to Lancashire's apparently disastrous

59 The record number of caps as an international rugby union captain won by Will Carling.

60 The age in years of Nelson Pessoa, of Brazil, when he won the Hickstead Derby showjumping event this year with a horse called Vivaldi.

65 The sterling equivalent of 1,000 Zimbabwe dollars: the win bonus paid to the players of Mashonaland for defeating

67 Highest first-class score of Phil Tufnell (at Lord's, not

70 The amount per day in US dollars paid as "cost of living allowance" to baseball players in addition to their annual salary.

72 The number of games between Newcastle United's most recent 0-0 draws.

542 The height in feet above sea level of England's

highest football ground - The Hawthorns, West Bromwich

431 The most wickets in a Test match career. Sir Richard

Hadlee, the great New Zealand all-rounder, holds the record.

1,000 The record number of league appearances made by Peter Shilton, reached this month when playing in goal for

1,565 The number of aces Served by Goran Ivanisevic, of Croatia, during the course of the last tennis season. See the first figure on this page for the number of grand-slam victories Ivanisevic has recorded.

5,000 The amount of dam-age in pounds caused by the collective action of the England football team on that flight home from Hong Kong.

93 The score of West Indies in the cricket World Cup in

101 The record number of rug-by union caps won by

will race Michael Johnson next

165 The number of matches required by Robbie Fowler

to reach his century of goals for

188 The highest ever individ-ual score in the cricket

World Cup, by Gary Kirsten, for

South Africa, against United Arab

Seles: eight-figure pay cut

251 CX251 was the flight number of the aeroplane

upon which the England football

team made their infamous journey

from Hong Kong to London before

257 The length in minutes of the longest game in World

Series history, set this year as New

York Yankees came from behind to

300 Wasim Akram took his 300 300th Test wicket as Paki-

stan wrapped up the series against

the European championship.

beat Atlanta Braves.

David Campese, of Australia.

reply to Kenya's 166.

World Cup final.

Liverpool.

25,095 The accumulative against Frankie Dettori's seven-timer.

107 Score of Aravinda de Silva, the Sri Lanka batsman, as his team beat Australia in the 27,072 Area in square ing surface at Lord's. 150 Distance in metres over which Donovan Bailey

100,000 The total in pounds of the various fines levied by Middlesbrough Football Club on Emerson, their Brazilian player. for his various absences at that mysteriously compelling counter-attraction to Teesside, the Copacabana.

150,000 The amount in dollars of baseball's minimum annual salary (rising from a paltry \$109,000).

1,250,000 The reportion for pounds in the year of Ryan

4,000,000 The amount in US dollars reportedly paid to Lennox Lewis for the task of not fighting Mike Tyson; a sum most of us would settle for.

15,000,000 The in pounds paid for Alan Shearer by Newcastle United.

16,300,000 Amount in dollars for which Monica Seles unsuccessfully sued the German tennis federation for lost income following the 1993 stabbing in Hamburg.

 $30,000,000 \stackrel{\text{Estimat-}}{\text{ed}} \hspace{0.1cm} \text{loss}$ in pounds of the bookmakers after

60,000,000 The amount in US dollars reportedly paid to Tiger Woods on becoming a professional golfer.

66,000,000 Reportantial payroll in US dollars for the playing staff of the New York



2.15 Birnsey

RACING: ENIGMATIC PRIDWELL AMONG A COMPETITIVE FIELD FOR KEMPTON'S CHRISTMAS HURDLE

Bimsey looks the safest proposition

RACING CORRESPONDENT

HORSES, like humans, can be complicated characters. Some with limited talent run their hearts out others may possess a touch of brilliance but are rascals and rarely perform up to their ability.

The Jekyll and Hyde nature possessed by an assortment of thoroughbreds is worth bearing in mind as nine runners line up for the Pertemps Christmas Hurdle (1.10), one of four races televised by Channel 4 at Kempton this afternoon. A quick reading of the form highlights Pridwell



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

as having an obvious chance in the day's feature race.

The Martin Pipe-trained runner put up three performances last season which give him a clear edge over his rivals, including an excellent third in the Champion Hurdle

If he reproduces that form today, he should win. However, as he showed at Cheltenham 13 days ago, when he dug his toes in at the start and refused to race until the rest of the field were nearer the first hurdle, it is a big if. "Has an awkward head carriage (sometimes looks unwilling): not one to trust implicitly,"

Timeform reports ominously. In the circumstances, punters may prefer to look out for a more reliable vehicle to carry their cash. Chief's Song, a course and distance winner, is consistent but probably lacks the class for this. Zabadi caused an upset by defeating Urubande at Newbury last



Pridwell, who was reluctant to race at Cheltenham, gets a chance to redeem himself in the Pertemps Christmas Hurdle at Kempton today

time but must improve again. as must Mistinguett, a winner at Ascot last Saturday.

Birnsey has not been without his problems but, unlike those of Pridwell, they have been physical rather than mental. A sore back kept him off the racetrack for a year but the Reg Akehurst-trained runner showed he had lost none of his sparkle when finishing half a length behind Large Action — with the recalcitrant Pridwell a distant fifth — at Cheltenham. Bimsey will enjoy the prevailing fast ground and is taken to go one better.

Although the Pertemps City Network Handicap Chase (l.40) has attracted only five runners, there should be plenty of pace with Five To Seven. Lackendara and the out-ofform Senor El Betrutti all liking to dictate from the front. Given the way the race will be run, this could be teed up for Big Matt and Southampton.

who are normally held up. Big Matt, a course and distance winner, will appreciate returning to a right-handed flat track after twice showing his dislike for Cheltenham's undulations. However. preference is for Southampton, who has run well in defeat this term, notably behind Strong Promise and Major Bell at Ascot last month. After the success of the François Doumen-trained Djeddah yesterday, Vol Par

Nuit will command respect in RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Golden Spinner (2.50 Kempton Park) Next best: Fitzwilliam (1240 Kempton Park)

the Pertemps Cream Novices Amateur Riders' Chase (1.10). However, the French raider may find it hard to keep tabs on Ballyea Boy after victories

at Towcester and Exeter. David Nicholson's progressive chaser never does more than he has to, but should find further improvement now that he is stepped up in trip. He is preferred to Dromhana.

Dextra Dove takes a drop in class in the I.T. Network Handicap Chase (2.50) after running in the Hennessy Gold Cup and Betterware Cup, but his jumping has lacked its normal fluency this term. Betty's Boy has struggled against the handicapper this term, while Big Ben Dun has failed to complete on his last

Golden Spinner, who is best on fast ground, won decisively from Around The Horn at Newbury and he has been raised only 5lb for hisnine-length success. The step up to three miles will suit this half-brother to The Tsarevich, whom Nicky Henderson hopes will make up into a Grand National horse. He looks the best bet on the card.

12,40 LEAR JET (nep) ... 2.50 Golden Spinner 1.10 Ballyea Boy 1.40 Big Matt 3.20 BARFORD SOVEREIGN. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 12.40 Lear Jet. 3.20 BARFORD GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (8.00AM INSPECTION) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING 12.40 PEHTEMPS CALEDONIAN JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-0: £5,454; 2m) (11 numers) (1m 21 good) CIRCUIS STAR 31 2nd of 9 to Surerus in Summit Junior Headle of Linghied (2m 110y, good in soft, FITZWILLIAM 12 2nd of 11 to Far Deart in notice hardle at Sandown (2m 110y, good) SOCETY MARSIC 41 2nd of 12 to Disaltowed of Challentern (2m 11 good). Selection: FLY FISHING 1.10 PERTEMPS CREAM NOVICES CHASE (Amateurs: £4,993; 3m 4f 110y0) (6 namers) 3204-11 BALLYEA BOY 21 (G) (II Barry) II Nic BETTIME: 2-1 Ballyes Boy. 5-2 Vol Per Holt, 4-1 Drominana. 5-1 Sugar Hill. 7-1 The Whole Hog. 25-1 Bolshie Recon 1.40 PERTEMPS CITY NETWORK HANDICAP CHASE (£10,358: 2m 4f 110yd) (5 runners) Long bandicus: Lacteodara 9-12, Res To Seren 9-11 BETTING: 9-4 Southersplot. 11-4 Big Matt., 7-2 Lackendary, 9-2 Five To Seven, 7-1 Seven B Bestuti FORM FOCUS

400

Mon Davis ca

The second

SOUTHWELL

12.15 The Barnsley Belle. 12.45 Share Delight. 1.15 Kalar. 1.45 Hornpipe, 2.15 Tonka, 2.45 Senate Swings. 3.15 Barrel Of Hope. Our Newmarket Correspondent 1.45 Albaha.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW. 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

12.15 FRENCH HEN HANDICAP

(Div I: £2,575; 1m) (11 runners) (5) 1163 KINGDOM PRINCESS 272 (CD.G) M Camacho 3-9-10 2 110) 0009 THREE ARCH SRIDGE 8 (B.C.D.F.G) M Johnson 4-9-7

10 (11, 040) PLEASURE TRICK 28 (B,C,D,F,G) E total 5-8-3 | 17 | 121 | 0000 | EPPETITE 24 (CD,G) N Bycrost 3-8-0 | N Kernady 90

2-1 The Barrolev Bette 4-1 Employn Process 5-1 Cats Bottom 6-1 Indicates, 10-1 Indicates, Materials Three Arch Endige, 12-1 others.

12.45 TURTLE DOVE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £2.886, 6f) (9) ### 12-1-U LZ. GOO. G4 (19) 2 330 BAILEBOROUGH BOY 97 I Barran 9-0 S Sanders 85 5: GOZ JAY-OWE-TWO 20 R Winteles 9-0 A Cultura 96 6: 95 KSYSTAL BANEY 27 I Barran 9-0 Vectoria Appletry (7) 79 4: GS MARGE FRZ 26 I Eineringsh 9-0 Jane O'Real 84 6: GOZ SHARE DELIBHT 22 B Hilt. 9-0 J D Sanda (2) 81 5: SUBMA CREEK IT Barran 9-0 J D Holland — 7: 5 FAYM 81 Ministen 8-9 F Monton 8-5 14 MGGOOM PEARL & Cornecto 8-9 J Dusso 5 14 4005 WINSPER LOW 7 R Hollinchead 3-9 W Ryan 89

1.15 CALLING BIRD HANDICAP (£2,927 · 61) (9) 1 6 1024 KALAR 14 (B.C.BF.F.G) D Chapman 7-10-9 A Culture 91 2 9 3320 BOLD ARISTOCRAT 8 (CD.G) 7 Holinched 5-9-3

3. D400 CRAISMARN 69 (8.D.F.) Lyre 3.3-1 Ruppin 89
3. L025 ENCORE M LADY 8 (V.O.F.G.S.F.Le. 5-8-13 R Lappin 95
3. 5201 SOURD THE TRUMPET 164 (G.R. Sacer 4-8-9 J.O.Teally 90
3. 5201 SOURD THE TRUMPET 165 J. Armed 3-7-12
4. 0060 CRAISME BOY 28 (B.O.S.F.) Byroth 6-7-10. J.Osson 91
3. 10005 PEACEPILL REPLY 8 (B.O.F.) F Lore 6-7-10. N Kennedy 69
3. 10325 JURA 24 J. Seryil 4-7-10. N Markey (3) 90
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3. 10005 PEACEPILL REPLY 8 (B.O.F.) F LORE 6 5.2 New Till Endine Millady 7-2 Bold Anstocad 3-1 Julia Chape Bay, 10-1 innochen Prayer 12-1 others

Kempton Park

Cong. guod to live 12 40 2m into 13 SANMARTENO IA Maguro 100-301/2. Secret Spring M Richards 150-301/2. Secret Spring M Richards 160-301/2. Secret Spring M Richards 160-1 2 Protein (R Durandody, 4-1) ALSO 160-1 2 Manhaur 50 160-1 2 Manhaur 50 160-1 1

1.00 J USF E2118
1.10 3m cm / DUEDDAH A Kordal 3-21
2. Solomon s Danter (R Currecock, 9-2)
3. Auroheof 13 Booley 9-4 top ALSO
3-41-100-35 Buedrouse Boy (B 4 Hatcham
Bor (L), 5 no. 188 Fine Toyer, See More
3. 1 of EDoumen in Franco Tote
55-90 230 5130 DF 510.20 CSF
E21.32

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1.40 (2m hater 1, ALBEMINE IT Ment, 6-4
1-40, Newmarket Correspondent's napr 2.
Chai-Yo IG Uston 7-4), 3. Yet Again ID
Bridgmalus, 11-41, ALSO RAN 23 Partic
Dante 4th 4 an INF Intermage, Thelang
Texts 11-1, 3, ded. May 3 Cept at
Vermand Total C2.60 (23.80 DF 52.30
CSF 34.23

2.15 PERTEMPS KING GEORGE VI CHASE

see facing page 245 2tr 4 chi 1, GREENBACK IN Wil-comport, 11:2, 2 Mister Drum IR Dun-wood, 13:8tr 3 Potter's Bay IA Magure, 11:8 (w) ALSO RAN-6 Sublime Fellow 4

7.45 PARTRIDGE MAIDEN STAKES

2.15 GOLD RINGS HANDICAP (\$2,684: 1m 3f) (13) 1 (3) 5323 CURET ARCH 57 (5) W Mast 3-9-10 Draw O'Weill 93 (7) 150- KATY'S LAD 440 (D.F.G.S) B McMatton 9-9-6 L. Newton 88 (7) 150- KATY'S LAD 440 (D.F.G.S) B McMatton 9-9-6 L. Newton 88 (7) 1500 SUBMISSION 32 (7),6.5) D Corporate 10-9-6 A Dataset 90 (8) 150- Katter 7-7 Corporate 10-9-6 A Dataset 90 (7) 174 (C.S.) P Nethersty 5-8-13 M Weston 84 (6) 0000 CAROL ARAM 24 (D.G.R.) N Byernat 4-8-10 Johns 5 (7) 10000 CAROL ARAM 24 (D.G.R.) D Crepton 6-8-9 D Holland 11 (1) 10000 R. DUMBE DECAM 46 (B.C.R.) D Crepton 6-8-9 D Holland 11 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 15 Sander 89 (13) 0005 BOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (C.F.S) J Paeros 11-8-8 Finance 17 (1) 10000 B DOLD HABIT 7 (1) 10000 B DOLD 3-1 Toolse, 5-1 Raindeer Osest, 6-1 Ricky Tu, 7-1 Sheraz, Bold Habit, 10-1 Quest Arch, 12-1 others

 $2.45_{\,\text{GESE}}\,\text{selling stakes}$ (2-Y-0: £2,505: 71) (5)

(2-1-0. Ec., 2013. F1) (5)

1. (3) 6(3) CHASE TUNN R LYCH 20 R Holomphead 8-12. W Ryant 80. 2. (2) 8046 FAST SIPM 142 T Barton 8-12. A Calizano 72. 3. (4) 3365 FAST SIPM 142 T Barton 8-12. D Holard 73. 3. (5) 40 3365 FAST SIPM 142 T Barton 8-12. Dame 0 Need 82. 5. (14 4826 PHYLLOA 32 P Malar 8-7. Sandars 88. 4.5 Sexuals Sandars 72. Chasaltown Riyer 4-1 Phylidia. 8-1 Fast Sprin 10-1 Hever 5x8 Starrer 3.15 FRENCH HEN HANDICAP

(Div II: \$2,575. 1m) (11)

(Div II: \$2,575. http://div.org/10.1013/j.ce/10.0078 ARREL OF HOPE 20 (B.C.F.G.S) I Fyre 4-10-0 O Pears (3) 94 (1) 10.0028 ARREL OF HOPE 20 (B.C.F.G.S) I Fyre 4-10-0 O Pears (3) 94 (1) 10.0028 ARREL OF HOTO (D.F.G.) O Congrove 4-9-4 5 Sambers 95 (1) 10.0028 ARREL OF HOUSE 97 J. Balding 5-0-12 ... Debt 10.0028 ARREL OF HOUSE 97 J. Balding 5-0-12 ... Debt 10.0028 ARREL OF HOUSE 97 J. Balding 5-0-12 ... Debt 10.0028 ARREL OF HOUSE 97 J. DEBT 10.00 3-1 Barrel Cit Hope. 4-1 kargotap Boy 5-1 Suevensman. 6-1 Golden Taxon. 7-1 Money. 10-1 Saher Harrow, 12-1 others.

TRANSERS: M Johnston, 44 women from 216 numer; 20 4%, M Pyan. 21 from 105 20 0%, J Banks, 6 from 32 15 6%, T Bancon, 36 trans 240, 14 5%, J Eyre, 24 from 166 14 5% JOCKEYS, B Holland, 23 womers from 102 rides, 22.5%, J.Wesver, 48, from 251, 19.1%, O Pears, 14 from 93, 15.1%, C Teague, 23 from 180, 12.8%, R Lappin, 9 from 79, 11.4%, M.Wegham, 13 from 119, 10.9%,

Reish, 66 Little Pitorim (6th), 9 ran 4t, 11, 111 31 141 G L Moore at Epsom Tote: 94 40 51 90, 51 60, 52,80 DF 53 42 Tro 57 40 CSF 57 85
2.50 (1m 2h 1 WARRIG BEACH (5 Whitworth 2-1) 2 Mediate (6 Milliogan 10-1): 3 Bon Societ (0 Holland, 5-4 faw ALSO RAN 10 Uon: 15m) 12 Eastleigh (6th), 14 Efficacious, Topup, 25 Diregor Green (4th), 33 Justinianus 9 ran NR Loveyoundilions, 5h hd, 61 23-1, 31: 4f G L Moore at Epsom. Tote 53 10 51 50, 52 20, 51.-41, DF, 512.00 Tho 26 60 CSF 522.27.

22.27.
3.20 (2m) 1, WOTTASHAMBLES D
Holland, 9.4 lav), 2, Guest Alliance (Candy Mons 4-1); 3, Coh She No (S
Senders, 6-1), ALSO RAN, 7-2 Nething, Dong (4h), 11-2 Canna, 8 Coke Red 23, Mapengo (6th), Teliba, 25 Action (5th), 23 Bloke Du Nord 10 ran 9, 41 3, 141, 41; Montague Hail at Epsom Tote 9260
61.40, 61.90, 62.40 DF 67.00 fnc 613.40 CSF 612.66 Thoast 648.18

Placepot: \$5.90.

Quadoct £2.30.

MUSSELBURGH

THUNDERER

12.35 Honeyschoice, 1.05 Noyan, 1.35 Three Wild Days, 2.05 Barton Heights, 2.40 Wayuphill, 3.15

(7.30AM INSPECTION)

12.35 CARBERRY TOWER JUYENGLE NOVICES HURDLE (£1.816: 2m) (10 runners)

5-4 Rossel, 6-1 Catherine's Chaice, 7-1 Homepschouse, 8-1 Poidty Fast, Millerlan City, 18-1 Nov Espel, Missester Detain, 12-1 Others

1.05 RUSTY NAIL HOVICES CHASE

C D'Arbbay Street runs to the 2.05 race 7-4 North Schill for Schill 1-2 Hemister Haugh, 7-1 Blue Charter 9-1 Hegithesit: 19-1 Tough Test 19-5 cores

1.35 MILLER HILL MANDEN HUROLE

11.2 ARCTO SASSIV 240 (F) J Bloom 6-11-5 B Storey
2 430- CARAIN VALLEY 252 D Roberton 6-11-5 J Burke
3 245- CARAIN VALLEY 252 D Roberton 6-11-5 J Burke
3 245- CARAINER 25-1 M Storey 6-11-5 D Parker
4 8-20 JAMANY SERRAL 34 C Patric 5-11-5 D Parker
5 122 SMCLETSK 10 - 3em 4-11-5 M Moderny
6 4-52 THOSE KLD DAYS 35 (89) Tight 4-11-5 A Thomson
7 P-74 CCL TO COMMAN 15 (89) Tight 4-11-5 M R R Hate
15 123 LITTLE REWINGS 18 (N M Hammond 4-11-0 Mr C Bonner (3)
8 P-96 N PERFORMENT STR Ram 4-11-0 M SC Bonner (3)
9 P-96 N PERFORMENT STR Ram 4-11-0 M R M Thomson
15 QC RAMIGNOR 16 (8) (Thomson 1-11-0 M M R Bonner
15 GO RAMIGNOR 16 (8) (Thomson 1-11-0 M M R Bonner
15 J SCACTHOUS SPEEDY 18 M Hammond 4-11-0 M R Garrity
15 Concern 3-1 Comp 5-1 Control Strike 1 M Language 4-11-1

2.05 PINKE HILL HANDICAP HURDLE

 $2.40\,$ col w l m monteth handicap chase (£2,697; 3m) (£)

E4 Bryght 3" Le Rive 32 Adead Felo 71 Wile Spatte 124 -Austree Arms 14: Traced 200, 16:1 clien

3.15 PRESTON TOWER STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1.138: 2m) (7)

☐ The meetings at Hereford, Huntingdon, Market Rasen, Sedgefield, Wetherby and Wolver-hampton were abandoned because of trost. States (1915 justs 174) (1479 Screen for Denter Americ, 8-1 Select Beach, 16-1 Constant Boll (16-1 Pro Sally Brit 18-1 Livery Sprite

Whitworth completes double

title ear to be 64 of CSP £13 82.

3.15 Cm 110yd hdle) 1 TIM rbt A Fitz-grade 7-72 2 Peatswood (G Brade), 2-1 fan 3 Ealing Court (G Upton, 15-1) ALSO AST 11-1 Mydan's Choose (4th, 100-30 Usru (57), 5 tan, MR, Caste Charageous, Ceretry Boy, Lanschavro, Nick The Boak, 2-15° ex that J Jenothy at Royston, Total 57 70 £183, £170 CF-£4 80 Trio £24.80. SIMON WHITWORTH, the but as a fully-fledged jockey. jockey, and Gary Moore, the 43 had been his previous best. trainer, celebrated a 14-1 Box-Park yesterday. The pair won

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Cingliell Felin
Gong: standard
1250 (Im 21) 1. BAROSSA VALLEY (D.
Saverney 11-4): 2. Slip Jig (Dane O'Ned.
4-1). 3. Codez Le Passage (W. Ryan
11-10 (aw). ALSO RAN 14 Hatta Surchine
(4th). Hoss Could-1-5th). 55 Northern Chel.
(5th). 6 ran. 12. 11: 101. 7, 23 P. Buffer at
Lawos. York 53 00-51.50. 52.30 DF
25.30. CSF 212 72
1 20 Jan. 18. 1 KI AND DRINGE J. Comp.

28.30. CSF E12 72

1.20 (6) 1 ISLAND PRINCE U Gunn
9-2) 2. The Wyandotte Inn (W Ryan, 6-4
Iau; 3. Countless Times (A Clark 14-1)
ALSO RAN 5-2 Heavenly Mas; 15th; 5
Royal Orchad, 16 Mystery (ath; 33 Oaken
Wood (6th) 7 ran Strind 13-1, 32-1 (10 2)
N Callaghan in Newmarket Tote 26 60,
22 60, 21 10 DF 5-520 CSF E11 93
1.54 (21) 1 FEEDINGS CARRET

150 (7) 1. EFFERVESCENCE (Care ONeil 4-6 fan) 2. Lily Jaques (S. Sandora, 33-1) 1. 3 Soura M. Wigham 4-1) ALSO R.N. 9-4 Have Got Mover (4th). 4 rain 11, 31 rain 6 ft Harmon at East Everteigh Total (15) DF 6480 CSF E10.97

2.20 (1m) 1 ROYAL CARLTON (S Windsorth 4-1) 2 Passage Creeping (S Sanders, 5-6 fav; 1 Hever Golf Eagle (D Hokand, 11-1) ALSO RAN 5 River Seine

Lingfield Park

Yesterday's double put him on ing Day double at Lingfield 45. Royal Carlton obliged in the Santa Claus Maiden with Royal Cariton (4-1) and Stakes and Waikiki Beach did Jackpot: £11,804,30 (0.60 winning tickets; pool of £6,850,32 carried forward to Normation Park today).

Walkiki Beach (2-1).

Whitworth rode 47 winners of the Stakes. likewise in the second division Whitworth rode 47 winners of the Epiphany Claiming

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSPOR M. American Commons from 152 regions, 28 4% M. Indiana, 25 per 2, 25 Per 2 from 22 26 25, Maria M. Pereley. 20 per 47 (20 Ta 7 Mariato), 11 per 64 17 2%, 1 langua 5 from 20 16 77. SECRETS 44 Foots: 2 across from 11 roles, 27 3%, Mr. C. Benner, 4 across (2, 252.5 ft Scarder, 1 tern 32, 27 5%, to Paper, 6 from 33, 15 525. ft Scarder, 114 14 3% J Barte, 3 from 23, 13 0%, Mr. Michary 5 train 43, 13 5% BUNCEPED FIRST TIME: Kempton Park 3 21 Over Leopards-town, 12.25 Scror's Guest 12.55 Test The Negdet 2.35 Nusfit-Musselburgh: 1.35 Regione Southwell 2.15 Flowing Octain, Westerby: 106 Cractic 5 Price Whetherlightung, Double Dash

THUNDERER 1.00 Namoodaj, 1.30 Baronet, 2.05 Jocks Cross, 2.35 Viking Flagship, 3.05 Mister Trick, 3.35

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (7.30AM INSPECTION) 1.00 BRADFORD JUVENILE HOVICES HURDLE

(£3.077; 2m) (14 runners) (23,07f: 2ff) (14 futbres)

1 186 DOUBLE DASH 23 (V.P) D Modate 11-4. D J Mediate
2 5213 JACKSON PARK 11 (0.5) T Easterby 11-4. J Callaghan
3 0 CLARES DANCER 25 A Tornell 10-12. L Harvey
4 20 CARBSES PRIOR 25 (5) M Meagher 10-12. F Leaby (3)
5 2 FALCON'S RLAME 77 Mer J Ramades 10-12. F Leaby (3)
6 MARIETON 41 Mrs S Sortills 10-12. R Weiderson (7)
7 MANODDAJ 77F D Netrolson 10-12. R Meagains
8 0 MEZDLE MARTON 23 J D O'Nell 10-12. R Meagains
9 THE ODDFBLOW 17FE H Byroof 10-12. S Rudscafe (5)
10 TOTTO 174F W Tanning 10-12. J Supplie
11 50 WHOTHERELL/SHAMEN 27 (B) J Berry 10-12. L D'Aran
12 09 PERFETUAL LIGHT 11 J Charm 10-7. A Dabbble
13 00 POINTEMEDRA 21 K Mongan 10-7. A S Smith
14 00 SUUSSE 11 Mrs M Rendey 10-7. A S Smith
14 00 SUUSSE 11 Mrs M Rendey 10-7. A S Carbon 2 F Merca A J Manodes A L Setton Borne 4.7 L Carbon 2 F Merca A J 9-4 Hamoodaj, 4-1 Falton's Flame, 9-2 Jackson Park, 7-1 Cabbre's Pitide, 8-1 Double Dack, 10-1 Mapleton, 12-1 others

1.30 APPLETON ROEBUCK NOVICES CHASE (£4,081, 3m 1f) (5)

1 F-11 BAPORET SS (D.F.G.S.) D Nichetana 5-11-10. A Magnine 2 3212 KEMMORE-SPEED 8 (D.BF.F.G.S) Mrs S South 9-11-5 3 34-P CROWN EDUERRY 41 (BF.G) G Rethards 5-11-0. P Cardway 4 -238 DESS MARS-MALL 49 / Read 8-11-0. A.S Smith 5 3FP ROYAL PARIS 17 Mrs S Smith 8-11-0. T Pland 4-7 Barcnet, 7-2 Craws Equery, 13-2 Keannes-Speed, 20-1 Dese Marshall, Royal Para

2.05 LONG MARSTON HANDICAP HURDLE

1 FF-0 HESPELEAN 27 (G.S.) P Webber 9-12-0 P Carburry
2 G2-1 ANGEM 27 (G.S.) F Notesison S-11-9 A Magnite
3 -112 RURATI NAP 27 (G.B.F.G.S.) G Moore 6-11-3 J Carburghert
4 B-27 ROBERTY LEA R. C.S. Sh No M Revelop 8-10-10 (Hest P Reven
5 0-11 JOCKS CROSS 48 (F.G.S.) G Rutturet S-10-5 A Dobbine
6 3132 DALLY BOY 6 F. G.) T Extendy 4-10-1 A S Smith
7 1211 ELA MATA 20 (G.F.G.S. 26's 4 Smithan 4-10-6 J Smith
9 -613 ARCA THE REAR 20 (S.) 1 Car 9-10-0 F Lendby (3)
9 -613 ARCA THE REAR 20 (S.) 1 M Leson 7-10-1 G Sepple (7)
5-7 Six Mata, 3-1 Atlanta. 4-1 Jocks Cross. 5-7 Burst Imp. 6-1 Returny Lea 8-1
Dally Boy. 16-1 others.

2.35 CASTLEFORD CHASE (Grade II: £18,760: 2m) (5)

1 - 222 GALES CAMALER 31 (D.E.S.) D Sandolfs B-11-29 JF Tibey
2 12-2 VIONS FLACSHIP 20 (CD.F.G.S) D Natiotize 9-11-10 A Magnite
3 2-35 LORD DORGET 20 (D.F.G.S.) J Charton 6-11-6 A P NatCoy
4 1-45 DORGET 20 (D.F.G.S.) F Nation 9-11-0 A P Oblin
5 2311 POLIDICAL TOWER 24 (CD.F.G.S.) R Nation 9-11-0 A Doublin 4-6 Viting Pagship 9-4 Gales Causian, 3-2 Limit Donnet, 12-1 Lieute Froe 33-1 Poulical Tower

3.05 BICKERTON HOVICES HANDICAP CHASE

(23, F12, 23) 48-110y0) (11)

1 PCJ ANALPAN JORREW 17 (5) J.I.C. Trees 7-11-10

A Magnete 2 21-4 CATTLY NAME 20 (5) J.L. C. Trees 7-11-10

3 4904 PLAT TOP 9 (5) M W Extract 5-11-6

4 6-29 RAMBOM PARKEST 35 (6) Plat M Reveloy 7-11-6

P Cardway 5 2-4U CHOSTY 17 Mrs 1 Secretar 6-11-3

J. Supple 6 1227 SALL YING 31 (C.S. W Astro 5-16-12)

GENERAL THE SALL YING 31 (C.S. W Astro 5-16-12)

GENERAL THE SALL YING 31 (C.S. W Astro 5-10-12)

J. Supple 6-10 MARKET RECK 17 (C.S. Lucapo 6-10-3

J. Galleghan 10 32-4 PROPER PLOS (F) F Front 10-12-C

Michigan 10 32-4 PROPER PLOS (F) F Front 10-12-C

REVIEW RECK 11-10 TOP 10-12-C

REVIEW RECK 11-12 C

REVIEW RECK 11-12-C

REVIEW RECK 11-12-C

REVIEW RECK 11-12-C

REVIEW REVIEW RECK 11-12-C

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REVIEW REVIEW RECK 11-12-C

REVIEW REVIEW RECK 11-12-C

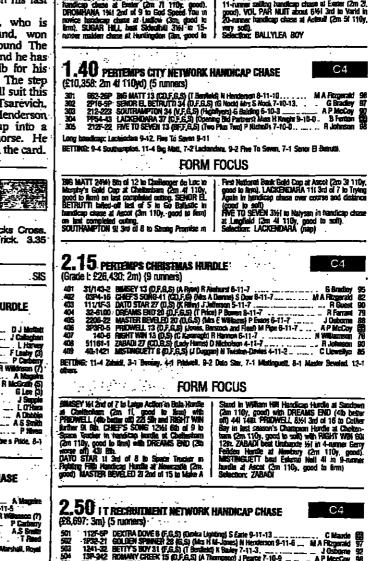
REVIEW RE 7-4 Random Harvers, 4-1 Aprilam Johnny, 5-1 Calify Hung, 6-1 Media Tools 7-1 Bullytes 8-1 Majorat Major, 10-1 (Days.

3.35 BRAMHAM NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

1 214 ENDOMMENT 13 (B.D.SE,G) No. M Resery 4-12-0... P Nives
2 - F31 OUT ON A PROMISE 14 (D.F.) N Walter 4-1-9 A Magnise
3 - F31 OUT ON A PROMISE 14 (D.F.) N Walter 4-1-9 A Magnise
4 1 MESTER ROSS 25 (D.G.) 14 Johnson F-1-7 A S Smith
5 P0-1 BRURGHT 7 N.D.S.D 012-015 5-11-4 (Pen)
6 4212 FAITHFUR HAND 14 Mr. S Smith 6-16-12 B Walter
6 4212 FAITHFUR HAND 14 Mr. S Smith 6-16-12 B Walter
7 - 444 SOLLY MONEY 45 7 Easterly 5-10-10 B Johnson (7)
9 60-4 OUT T ELL TOMB 3 Factor 6-10-0 J F Timey
9 60-4 OUT T ELL TOMB 3 Factor 6-10-0 J F Timey
9-4 Out Cn 3 Promot 7-2 Endommen 9-2 Advance East, 5-1 Magni Right, 7-1
fromm 10-1 Factor Macal 12-1 S.Jg Maney 16-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSPERS 4 Tyrnest, 3 womens from 6 normens, 50.0%, D Neutrolson, 17 from 52, 32 7%, Mrs. M. Reveley, 47 from 167, 28 1%, G Rechards, 27 from 113, 25.3%, 1 Exclusivy, 7 from 34, 20.5%, J H Johnson, 14 from 78, 17 9%.

There will be an extra meeting on the all-weather Flat track at Lingfield Park on Monday. The British Horseracing Board has arranged the fixture to combat the effects of



BETTERG: 2-1 Beth's Boy. 9-4 Solden Spinner. 5-2 Desira Dove. 7-1 Romany Creek, 10-1 Big Ben Dun FORM FOCUS

DEXTRA DOVE 33½1 5th of 11 to Coorse Hall m
Hennisssy Gold Cup at Newbury (3m 2f 110); good in
on last completed outing. GOLDEN SYMMER heat
Abound The Horn St of 1-noise handleap class at
Henbury (2m 4l, good) BETTY'S BOY 211 2nd of
4 to Yorkshare Gale on handleap class at
Chelten-

3.20 GOOD JOB HANDICAP HURDLE (£5,592: 2m 5f) (6 runners)

BETTING. Evens Tullymany Toll, 4-1 Barland Soverings, 9-2 Romanny Pete. 7-1 Storm Oast, 8-1 Lucky Blos. 14-1 Trust

FORM FOCUS

TULLYMILIPRY TOFF beal Mytton's Choice 3341 in 5-center handicap handle at Haydoch (2m 4. good) RUNAWAY PETE 1341 2nd of 18 to Elevan handicap handle at Falenham (2m 14. good). STORM DUST 4546 (8h of 9 to 10. past) DUST 29 3nd of 4 to 0h So Riesly in nance choice at Ascot (2m, good to familia at 22 completed.

Selection: BARTORD SOVERBICA

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS J Facciones C Marin F Courses P Nicholis D Nicholison K Balley

☐ A jockey began on one horse but finished on another after a collision in a race at Caulfield in Melbourne. Andrew Payne, an apprentice, was thrown out of his saddle when a horse next to his unseated its rider. But he managed to scramble to safety by throwing his arm over the loose horse and climbing onto its back. When I looked up and saw where I was I couldn't believe it." Payne said.

1 ready will have major sur- Manchester United.



CHELTENHAM

RACELINE 0930 168+ COMMENTARY KEMPTON WETHERBY LEICESTER 104 204 MUSSELB'GH 105 205 FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

One Man's victory fuels Gold Cup debate

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

KEMPTON PARK

TO DUD IN LINE RACECAR

LIKE a nostalgic Christmas production, the nation's love affair with greys was revived at Kempton yesterday when One Man galloped to his second successive victory in the Pertemps King George VI Chase. Desert Orchid led out the parade and his heir apparent led them home after an exhibition of precision fencing in course record time.

in a ruthless examination. Mr Mulligan forced the pace to extremes only One Man could match. Rough Quest, Strong Promise and Barton Bank withered away as Mr Mulligan: excited suppporters when stretching clear on the turn for home. But Richard Dunwoody, riding the grey with measured assur-

ance, retrieved the deficit with no apparent effort. The eightvear-old moved alongside three fences from home, went ahead soon after and drew away from Mr Mulligan before that rival crashed out at the final fence.

It looked entirely straightforward, but the strain told as One Man visibly tired in the closing stages. Indeed, so emphatic was his performance to that point that his laboured passage up this short, unde-manding run-in proved the most fascinating aspect of a race depleted beforehand by three withdrawals on account

of fast ground. While he may one day match Desert Orchid's four victories in this event, One Man's prospects of emulating his feat of by winning the Cheltenham Gold Cup appear remote. He already has one ignominious failure against

The point obviously played One Man's connections. Cheltenham's lure so transcends all others in National Hunt racing that John Hales, who owns One Man, even alluded to the Gold Cup in the moment of celebration. "The horse has now won a Hennessy and this race twice," he said, "but what accounted for Mr Mulligan's Dancer, by a length. The promising



The grey, One Man, clears the water jump majestically in company with Strong Promise before taking command in yesterday's King George VI Chase at Kempton

Doumen plans return of Dieddah

the Racing Post Chase as a prelude to a

possible trip to the Cheltenham Festival.

however. He saddles two more interest-

ing contenders at today's Sunbury Park

meeting. Fly Fishing, who has won his

last two starts, runs in the Pertemps

Caledonian Juvenile Novices' Hurdle,

while Vol Par Nuit lines up for the

Doumen is not resting on his laurels

ser could now return to Kempton for

happened at Cheltenham was so disappointing. Everyone has their own opinion about why he ran so badly but we could never put our finger on it. I was just delighted to bring him home safe and sound."

Perhaps the most telling detail was the expression on Dunwoody's face as he entered the winner's enclosure. If a hint of a smile pursed his liss in eccognition of his fourth King George victory, his mind was otherwise engaged. "He "Half of it was due to him idling and maybe the other half was because he was coming to the end of his tether. After a performance like that, he was entitled to get a bit tired."

Tiredness may also have

ill-deserved departure at the final fence. Tony McCoy blamed himself for precipitating the fall of the raw-boned chestnut. "I tried to shorten his stride but I let him get in too close to the fence," he said.

KANCOIS DOUMEN E

ship Feltham Novices' Chase.

King George four times, but did not have

a runner in yesterday's renewal. How-

ever, the French trainer still left his mark

on the meeting by saddling Djeddah to

win the Pertemps Recruitment Pariner-

Man's stable companion, Solomon's

Djeddah stayed on gamely to beat One

Rough Quest, who profited from Mr Mulligan's fall to never happy. "He hated the

allowed to coast home unextended from the final fence. Yet he may even have closed the gap on One Man, who officially won by 12 lengths. The Grand National winner acquitted himself well but Mick Fitzgerald, who rode the horse, reported his mount was

ground. He was jumping and hanging left all the way." he

Intriguingly, Rough Quest is scheduled to clash with One Man in the Pillar Chase at Cheltenham next month. Gordon Richards, who trains One Man, is anxious to trial the horse at Prestbury Park before

committing him to the Gold Cup. "If he can't win that race then I don't think he'll be winning a Gold Cup," he said. "The horse was brilliant today

and I'd like to enjoy this before thinking about his next race." That next outing should dissolve some of the many

Pertemps Cream Novices Chase. The fast

ground yesterday resulted in See More

Business and Fine Thyne being pulled

out of Djeddah's race with the former's

trainer, Paul Nicholls, less than happy

with conditions. "Firstly, it's too quick

and, secondly, it's frozen in places and, in

my opinion, unraceable. Four of us

walked round and we all came to the

Man's appalling record at Prestbury Park. Richards accepted One Man may just be short of stamina for the Gold Cup; he has mooted the possibility of running in the Champion Chase over two miles. However, as he contemplates his options. Richards is bound to reflect on One Man's record at the spiritual home of jump

racing. One Man has won all his completed starts over fences with the exception of his two outings at the Cheltenham Festival. His growing legion of supporters concede that does not inspire confidence, but they will doubtless take consolation from the fact that Desert Orchid endured far greater tribulations at Cheltenham before landing the Gold Cup

Fixtures feel chill as frost strikes

THE Boxing Day programme was severely hit by the weather for the second successive season. Nine of the 11 scheduled meetings were lost, a year after all ten meetings fell to the weather. Only Kempton Park and Lingfield's all-weather programme

survived.

Ayr. Newton Abbot and Wincanton were called off on Wednesday, and frost was the cause of Hereford, Huntingdon, Market Ras-en, Sedgefield, Wetherby and Wolverhampton being abandoned yesterday.

Frost has already made inroads into today's racing with Chepstow and Leicester falling victim to the cold snap yesterday. Chepstow was particularly hard hit, losing the Coral Welsh National meeting for the third year in a row. The Welsh National will not be switched to another course, as it was in 1994.

Inspections are planned at Wetherby (7.30), Musselburgh (7.30) and Kempton (8.00). A spokesman for Kempton said: "There is the possibility of low temperatures and, as we have raced today, the ground has been opened up so the frost can get in."

Hopes of racing Musselburgh are high. "It is perfectly raceable today but there is some frost forecast overnight," the clerk of the course, Mark Kershaw, said yesterday. "To keep people informed we will have a precautionary inspection, but we are very hopeful of racing."

Wetherby inspects at 7.30 after losing its Boxing Day fixture. A spokeswoman said: "Hopefully the frost won't be as bad tonight. There are some showers forecast."

Prospects are not bright for the turf meetings tomorrow with inspections already planned at Folkestone (noon today) and Huntingdon (3.00 today).

Frost is also threatening Newbury tomorrow. "We have frost in the ground," the clerk of the course, Richard Pridham, said yesterday. "It is doubtful whether we could have raced today. There is more frost forecast, so it depends on what the daytime temperatures get up to. We will just have to wait and see what happens over the next

Klairon Davis can get back on track

By OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT

KLAIRON DAVIS, the Queen Mother Champion Chase winner, attempts to get his campaign back on track in the McCain Handicap Chase at Leopardstown today. A faller at Punchestown on his last appearance, the Arthur Moore-trained gelding was

Humbel, 3.40 Be My PLeasure.

12.25 TOTE ACCOUNT HURDLE

2400 FALSIANS HW: 1149 J T GORDON 10-7

G SAMES 27 C Rache 10-7

0103 F7ATAH 22 K Prandergast 10-7

0103 F7ATAH 22 K Prandergast 10-7

0104 SLAMBA 22 K Prandergast 10-7

6330 MATME ECLIPSE 122F A P D'Bleen 10-7

0330 MATME ECLIPSE 122F A P D'Bleen 10-7

GSSO MATME ECIPSE 122F A P (Pleter 10-7
2700 ROYAL MEDYNA 17 J F Balley 10-7
2244 SIGBA COMMS 202F N Mexic 10-7
4348 VICTORY BOUND 144F 6 I HOURGE 10-7
4348 VICTORY BOUND 144F 6 I HOURGE 10-7
4000 FINE PROJECT 40 I G McCourt 10-2
1 FERN PREJIS 68F K Presidents 10-2
000 FALE BIEHT 41 P Middles 10-2
000 FALE BIEHT 41 P Middles 10-2
000 FALE SIGHT 41 P Middles 10-2
000 FALE SIGHT 42 (B) N Mascé 10-2
5850 UNASSISTED 20 V Bowlets 10-2
5850 UNASSISTED 20 V Bowlets 10-2
5850 UNASSISTED 20 V Bowlets 10-2
5850 LINASSISTED 20 V Bowlets 10-2

12.55 CHELTENHAM GOLD CARD BEC2

4-1 Tell Ting Rigger, 6-1 Sir John, 7-1 Vicar Street, Young Van Kathy, 8-1 Collect Leader, 10-1 Baltenber, 12-1 others

GOING: YIELDING

(£5,480; 3m) (15)

(£4,110: 2m) (18 runners)

TEOPARDS OWN

12.25 Spirit Dancer, 12.55 Tell The Nipper, 1.25

Klairon Davis. 2.00 Istabraq. 2.35 New Co. 3.10

in a three-horse race at Leopardstown on his seasonal

debut Klairon Davis, who took time to find his form last season, has to concede upwards of 15lb to four opponents but should be up to the task provided his jumping improves. "I have no doubts about Klairon Davis's jump-

beaten by Fiftysevenchannels ing and I am confident his fall at Punchestown was just a blip," Moore said yesterday. Merry Gale ran his best race since returning from injury in that Punchestown race but today's trip of 24 miles is short of his best.

Moore and his stable jockey, Francis Woods, could complete a double with Whale Of A Knight, who is highly

2.00 1ST CHOICE NOVICE HURDLE BBC2

4-5 istabono, 9-4 Less De Paux, 6-1 Paletto. 14-7 All The Vounds, 16-1 Three Schotais, 20-1 Delphi Lodge.

1 1526 FEATHERED GALE 27 (F.G.E) ALT Moore 9-12-0
Nr.J I Media

1 1526 FEATHERED Lance or processing the process of
6 11M0 WYLDE HDE 40 (8.5) A L T Moore B-11-2 F Woods 7 11-6 BALLYHDE LAD 27 (F.S.5) A P O'Briss 7-(0-12 B Boxess 8 220 TRYFFEDIN 27 (F.S.5) V Boxess 7-(0-11 B Boxess 9 31(2) HBST 40 (6.5) W Moods 7-(0-14 K F O'Briss 10 4

10 4FOP LOVE AND PORTER 40 (F.B.S) JJ O'Commo 8-10-9 DH O'COMMO?

11 31FO WHALE OF A KNIGHT 26 (S.S) ALT Moore 7-10-7 P Carbony

12 38F1 MENI CO 13 (G.S) MF Words 8-10-6 ______ C O'Dhyser

13 FFS5 BACK BAR 20 (G.S) ALT Moore 8-10-5 _____ JP Broodnick

14 4063 TRME FOR A FUN 20 (G.S) E J O'Grady 9-10-4 __ R Democody

15 FARS TOPPICAL TYP 5 (G.J. E Markern 7-10-5 ______ CF Swen

16 6801 BEAT RHE SECONIO 24 (G.S.) A P O'Brice 8-9-13 ____ CF Swen

17 3313 DANCENS VISION 13 (F.B.S) E McKernara 6-9-12 ____ J Junes

3-1 New Co. 5-1 Antonio, 7-1 Second Scheduel, 8-1 Land Singapore, 10-1 Best The Second, Ferthered Gate, 12-1 Heat, Topical Tip, 14-1 effers.

4-5 Hestobal, 7-2 Bass Dayle, 8-1 Baldani, Gentia Mossy, Tidal Princess, 14-1 Else Wave, Bresholta, 16-7 others.

3.40 LEOPARDSTOWN ANNUAL BADGE IRISH

3.10 ARBORETUM GARDEN CENTRE MAIDEN

HURDLE (3-Y-0: £4,110: 2m) (12)

NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

2.35 PADDY POWER HANDICAP

regarded, in the £80,000-added Paddy Power Handicap Chase. The seven-year-old looked to have a similarly valuable handicap sewn up at last April's Punchestown Festival when falling four fences out. He has had just one run since at Fairyhouse, but Moore is confident that Whale Of A Knight is in peak form

for today's valuable event

Istabraq, another well-regarded horse, was highly impressive in a novice hurdle at Fairyhouse earlier this month and is considered a banker for the Cheltenham Festival. Istabraq showed useful form on the Flat for John Gosden and has adapted very smoothly to timber. He should start at odds on for the 1st Choice Novice Hurdle and looks to have an excellent chance.

Cheltenham will also be on the mind of trainers with entries in the Gold Card Handicap Hurdle Qualifier run today. The John Mulhern-trained Miltonfield has not run for nearly seven weeks but is reported to be in good order and may be the answer to an especially tricky

contest for punters. Danoli set up a possible clash with Imperial Call, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, with an impressive victory in the Denny Gold Medal Chase at Leopardstown yesterday. The Tom Foley-trained gelding stormed home six lengths clear of British challenger Land Afar with his jockey, Tommy Treacy, punching the air in delight well

before the line. "He has proved a lot of people wrong," Foley said after Danoli had made his only slight mistake at the fourth fence in the two-mileone-furlong contest."He learnt from his fall at Punchestown and will continue to learn. He will go for every race available to him and distance won't be a

WOITY." One of Danoli's targets is the Hennessy Gold Cup at Leonardstown on February 2 in which he could meet Imperial Call. But Foley has yet to decide which race Danoli will contest at the Cheltenham



same conclusion." he said.

By ROBERT SHEEHAN BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Last week I discussed suitpreference signals when you were giving your partner a ruff. This Refresher describes their use in No-Trump contracts. When you are knocking out the declarer's stoppers, you can often indicate where your entry is by the size of card you use. A high card indicates your entry is in a higher

ranking suit, and vice versa. The bidding has been North One Club, South 1 NT, North

+KQ3

• K2 **+KOJ1098** 4J10872 **VA54**

3 NT.

As West you lead the jack of spades against 3 NT. Declarer plays the king from dummy. East takes the ace and returns the nine. How do you defend? Clearly you must overtake the nine, as if it is your partner's last spade declarer could shut out the suit by ducking if you play low. As your entry is in hearts rather than diamonds, you play the jack of spades. If declarer lets you hold the trick,

Now assume you had the ace of diamonds instead of the ace of hearts. This time you would play the ten of spades on the nine, and if that held continue with the two of

BIBLICALS

a. A jumper

c. A king

OBADIAH

JEHOSHAPHAT

b. A minor prophet

a. A minor prophet

b. A corrupt judge

c. A loyal servant

you re-emphasise the message

by clearing spades with the

spades. This might be the lay-

▼K2 • K 2 +KQJ1098 **9543** ¥109876 +A54 +J10983

÷Α

+ 976 **\$**5432 Without careful signalling by West, it's a complete toss-up which red suit East should

play when he wins the ace of

This the end of the series on

6854

LDAY

signalling. Don't get carried away by your partner's signals: in most cases they are not the critical part of the defence. A defender should first count the declarer's tricks, then the defenders' tricks, then ask himself "would declarer have done this if he had that?" Then "would my partner have done this if he had that?" Only at that point, if he is still in doubt as to what to do, should he consider what his partner's signals have shown him. Of course there are situations in which only that information will enable him to do the right thing, but I can assure you a top-class pair would get most defences right without the use

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE ōn CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Hastings preview Britain's top all-play-all tournament starts at Hastings tomorrow with a field including top British grandmasters Michael Adams, Stewart Conquest and John Nunn, while the foreign opposition is fronted by grandmaster Bogdan Lalic. Here are a

couple of recent wins by two of the likely favourites. Hastings runs until January 12 and for those readers who wish to obtain details of round times. in order to spectate the tournament office can be contacted on 01424 439222.

White: Stuart Conquest Black: Robert Bellin Donner Memorial 1996 King's Gambit

5 b4 7 Nc3 Od8 Bxt3 16 dxe5 Bc5+ 18 Kh1 19 Bt5 Bh5 20 Qe1 0-0 21 Nx14 Black resigns 22 Rd7

Diagram of final position 4 3 2 企 1 1

abcde fgh White's attack was speculative and Black's best would have been 19 ... Qxf6. White: Michael Adams Black: Peter Leko

Cap d'Agde 1996 Trompovsky Attack 2 Bg5 3 Bt4 4 f3

16 Nge2 17 e5 18 exf6 19 Nd5 23 PhB 24 Kb1 Black resions If 17 ... dxe5 18 Ne4 wins the black queen. ☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in

WINNING MOVE

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

AMRAPHEL

a. An angel b. A comforter of Job c. A king BAANAH

of signalling.

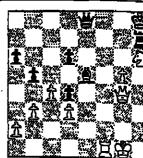
a. The land of Canaan b. A murderous thug c. The taboo on shellfish

Answers on page 36

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Pokrowski -Staruchin, USSR 1980. Here White found a clever way to bring his kingside initiative to a favourable conclusion. What did he play?

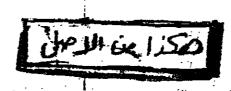
Solution on page 36



Sport and in the Weekend

section on Saturday.

(23,082; 2M) (7)
1 01/0 KAVANASIS DREAM 13 (6) D 6 MbArde 7-12-4 Mr H F Cheny
2 4410 VARTEN BOY 54 (7) J Families 5-12-4 hr H F Cheny
3 0223 8050 805W 13 (7) 7 Madities 5-11-13 hr P Fortion
4 6331 STROMTUBE 12 (8) J F Glesson 4-11-13 hr P Fortion
5 TEMPEST GALE M Hallord 7-11-11 hr A K Wyce (7)
6 1 8E MY PLEASURE 54 (6) S O'Brites 4-11-6 hr Sean 0 O'Brites (7)
7 0002 SHANNON GALE 30 C Roche 4-11-6 hr Sean 0 O'Brites (7) 1.25 MCCAIN HANDICAP CHASE BBC2 1 412F SLARON DAWS 20 (6.5) A L T Moort 7-12-0 F Woods 2 PARA MERRY GALE 20 (8.5) J F Dreson 8-10-13 R Durisondy 3 4510 PRY NEW YEAR AND 15 25 (8.5) E Rolper 7-10-0 C F Swen 1 5383 JASSU 27 (6.5) J F R Dreson 9-10-0 J P Broderick PSSP PYR FOUR 50 (8.5) J F R Dreson 9-10-0 J P Broderick (£6,850: 2m 2f) (5) 7-4 Se My Picesure, 3-1 Boro Bon, 7-2 Kasangdo Ducas, 6-1 Stannon Gele, Stornjon, Vatty Boy, 20-1 Tembest Gale 45 Nation Case: 5-2 Many Gale, 5-1 Jasel 8-1 Pyr Four, 20-1





A C Lloyd (Builders) Ltd A C Lloyd (Buddens) Ltd ACM Shipping Ltd ADAS AIG Europe (LRK) Ltd AIS Yorkshine AOC International Ltd APIC International Pic AT & T Network Systems UK Ltd AXA South & Law AXA Equity & Law Abbey National Benefit Consultants Ltd Able Instruments & Controls Ltd Aerospace Alan Steel (Asset Manager Alex Stewart Partnership Alexander Binzel U K Uld Allson Associales Aliance & Leicester/Giro Bank Alms & Young
Alpha Precision Eng (Poole) Ltd
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Alusursse UK Ltd Alves Pic Amoco (UK) Exploration Company Amoco (UN) zaporazioni company Angio Polit Construction Lid Apollo Metals (UK) Limited Apollo Video Film Hire Ltd Appleed Citroen Bradford Appleed Communications Inc Ltd Aqua-Gas (Valves & Fittings) Ltd Anthol (edit) Archer Lesure
Armstrong Watson & Co
Arthur Andersen
Ashdown Hurrey & Co
Asset Management Services
Associated Lesure Ltd Associated Nursing Services Pic Associated Octel Co Ltd Atlas Elektronik Avis Rent A Car Avon Insurance B E W (Auto Products) Ltd B M I The Park Hospital B P Chemicals B P Oil UK Ltd B R Hodgson Group Linated BASF Pic Colours & Specialities Div BDO Stoy Haywa BP Oil (UK) Ltd BP Surbury Ballour Beatty Bank of Montres Barclays Bank South East Regio Barclays Life Assurance Co Ltd Barclays Vehicle Management S Bennett Brooks & Co Bency Limited Benson McGarvey H. Berwin Leighton Binder Hamlyn Birmingham Manufac Boom Vyelsh Associates Ltd Borax Europe Ltd Bowater Business Forms Sowing Marsh and McLennan Ltd Boyd & Lloyd Office Supplies Brachers Solicitors Bradley Lomas Belcholok Limited Brather Englishmen Brownhills Glacs Co. Ltd
Brown Shipley & Co Ltd
Brown Shipley & Co Ltd
Brown Lift Ltd
Bryden Johnson & Co
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Bulled Procision Engineers Ltd
Burrows Keeln & Associates Ltd
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Burrows Keeln & Associates Ltd
Bursiness Systems Group Ltd
Buzzacat & Co
C & C Oxford
C M G Computer Management Gro
C-C-C Group Limited Carnas - Building Ma Campbell Restr Hill Canada Lilip Canary What Management Ltd Capital Asset Finance Limited Caradon Gent Limited Camaud Metalbox Closures Plo Carpet & Flooring (Micta Catchgate Components Charles Taylor & Co Ltd. Charlotale Homes

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Citroen Pleat
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Department of Economic Developmer
Derbyshire Building Society
Deny Landscapes & Garden Design
Design & Innovation
Devenport Management Limited
Dictinson & Co Doberman - Horsman Doig & Smith Donaldson Lulkin & Je Donn and Co.

Dore Metal Services

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Blectrical Review
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Hancocks Holdings Ltd Harvest Agricultural Supplies
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Hymens Robertson Consulting
18 H Euston Half Hospital
IBC Group Pic
IBH Berkshire Independent Hos
IBH Cambrean Hospital
IBH Greater Manchestar
IBH Middle Manchestar
IBH North Down Hospital
IBH North Down Hospital
ICL Financial Services
I C L (Morth)
IVECO Ford
ITM Ltd
Ian Scott & Company lan Scott & Company Ince & Co Industrial Scattold Group Ltd Intech Promotions Ltd Integrated Engineering Projects
Integrated Engineering Projects
Integrated Engineering Projects
Integrated Europe Ltd
Integrational Petroleum Exchange
Invicta Radio Group
Ireland Freight Services
J Howitt & Son Ltd
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Jarnes & Comper
James Martin & Co
John Drake & Compeny
John Fylle Limited
John Good & Sons Group
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Kingspan Building Products Ltd Kinnarpa UK Ltd Kodak Ltd Kodak Ltd Kruger Tissus Group Kvaerner H & G Offshore Ltd LPH Group Pic Laing Homes Lar Lamco Paper Sales Ltd Langlord & Thomson Langage & Homson
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The British Land Company Ptc
The British Precast Concrete Federal
The Cable Corporation
The Change Pertnership Ltd
The Change Manheitan Corporation The Children's Appeal
The Children's Appeal
The Diocese of Richester
The Beatrical Coverators Ass SE
The J Rothschild Partnership
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The Littlewoods Organisation Pic.
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person. Direct authority to the

latter effect was provided by Lord

Advocate v Gibb ((1906) 5 TC 194).

The company had pointed out that it was liable to report only

those receipts in respect of which its clients were chargeable to income tax, and that unless it was

carrying on the entirety of its clients' business or the activities which it was carrying on were

unequivocally trading activities, it could not comply with the notices.

could Sotheby's or Christie's re-

spond in a nonce which required

them to provide the requisite information in relation to every

The section was a nenal one, and

should not be construed so as to

There were several answers to

I The agent was only required to

provide information which was in

2 Section 118(2) of the Act provided

that if he had a reasonable excuse for not complying he should be deemed not to have failed to

notice in any way necessary to prevent it being oppressive.

4 If the inspector decided to

exercise his powers unreasonably

or oppressively his decision was amenable to judicial review.

in most cases the company would know perfectly well that its client was selling the investock in the course of business.

In cases where it had reason to

believe that the client was not a

trader, or that the sale was not in

the course of trade, the company

would have a reasonable excuse

for not including his sales in its return, although it would be obliged to supplement the return if

further information came into its

The Master of the Rolls and

enue; Oglethorpe . Sturton &

8 There was, however, a rule of

public policy analogous to the ex turpi causa rule that a court could

exclude a tort claim by a person who, in order to assert it, had to

rely on a crime committed by him.

9 in applying that rule, the court

had to make a judgment on a

pragmatic basis as to whether in

case, it would be offensive to the

to base his claim on his own

criminal conduct or more offensive

for him to be deprived of what otherwise would be his normal

10 Where a claimant brought a

neeligence claim based on an

allegation that the defendant either

caused or failed properly to treat

severe mental disorder, he could in

principle recover as a head of

claim damages for personal injury.

If that harm itself resulted from

harming others in a criminal

manner, public policy did not preclude him from recovering

damages for the harm to himsel

even though he was guilty of

Il There was no rule of public

policy whereby a party who could

recover damages for self-inflicted personal injury was precluded

ages he himself had to pay to others as a result of the activities,

criminal or otherwise, which con-stituted that self-inflicted injury. It followed, in his Lordship's

judgment, that Mr Clunis was not

precluded from recovering dam-ages if he could show that his mental condition had deteriorated

as a consequence of his killing Mr

as a consequence of his killing Mir Zito, nor from recovering damages flowing from his future as a potentially life-long secure mental patient. Mr Clunis was not pre-cluded from recovering as dam-

ages from the authority such sums

as he might be liable to pay to the

Solicitors: Thanki Novy Taube;

from seeking indemnity

from self-inflicted harm.

including mental deterioration

individual circumstances of the

dic conscience for the claimant

had been mistaken.

Lord Justice Potter agreed. Solicitors: Solicitor, Inland Rev-

ession which showed that it

inspector could limit the

permit the Revenue to act oppres-

sively, or to require the recipient of the notice to ascertain whether his

one of their vendors?

his own possession.

How, it was asked rhetorically.

Auctioneer must make tax report

word.

Fawcett (Inspector of Taxes) v it had proved to be a valuable Lancaster Farmers Auction Mart Co Ltd and Another Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Millett and Budgment December 4

The reporting requirements laid down by section 13 of the Taxes-Management Act 1970 applied to an auctioneer who received the proceeds of sales made in the course of trading by his chi

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing the Crown's appeal against the decision of Mr Justice Rattee in the Chancery Division (The Times December 31, 1994) upholding the dismissal by a special commis-sioner of an information laid before him for penalties for fa by the company, Lancaster Parsners Auction Mart Ce Ltd. to comply with section 13 motices relating to the years 1986 to 1988.

Section 13 provides: "(1) Every person who, in whatever capacity, is in receipt of any money or value, of any profits or gains from any of the sources mentioned in the Income Tax Acts, of or belonging to another person who is charge-able to income tax in respect thereof ... shall, whenever re-quired to do so by a notice given to him by an inspector, prepare and deliver ... a return ... containing — (a) a statement of all such money, value, profits or gains, and (b) the name and address of every

person to whom the same belong..." Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Christopher McCall, QC, for the Crown: Mr Janek Matthews and Mr Julian Ghosh for the company,

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT said that the company carried on the business of an auctioneer in the course of which it sold livestock on behalf of clients who were engaged in the trade of farming. The commany received the proceeds of such sales and paid over to the relevant vendor the net proceeds of sale after deducting its own

According to the Crown, section 13 was in common use to require auctioneers who sold goods for with information about sales, and

Clunis v Camden and Isling-

Before Mr Richard Mawrey, QC

A party claiming negligence based.

on an allegation that the defendant caused, or failed properly to treat

severe mental disorder could, in

principle, recover as a head of

claim damages from self-inflicted

harm. If that harm itself resulted

from harming others in a criminal

manner, public policy did not

preclude him recovering damages for the harm to himself even

though he was guilty of a crime.

There was no rule of public policy whereby a party who could

recover damages for self-inflicted harm was precluded from seeking

indemnity for damages he had to

pay others as a result of the

activities, criminal or otherwise.

which constituted the self-inflicted

Mr Richard Mawrey, QC, sit-

ting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division so stated

in a reserved judgment when

dismissing a summons by Cam-den and Islington Health Au-

Order 18, rule 19(1)(a) of the Rules

of the Supreme Court to dismiss an

action for damages brought by Christopher Chunis, by his next

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ton Health Authority

Judgment December 12!

weapon in the Revenue's armoury to enable it to deal, for example, with second-hand car dealers who sold by auction and often for cash. It was also commonly used to require theatrical or musical agents to provide information about fees and royalties which they received for fiveir clients. If the udge's decision was correct, sec-

tion 13 was not available in such cases, and its scope and utility would be reduced almost to vanishing point. anishing point.

The judge had accepted the company's submission that section 13 had two limbs, "any money or value" and "any profits or gains from any of the sources mentioned in the Income Tax Acts", and that the two limbs were mutually enclusive alternatives which corresponded respectively to pure income receipts where tax was chargeable on the amounts ac-tually received without deduction.

deducting the expenses of carning Neither limb covered trading receips which were neither tax-able in themselves nor represented trading profits but were merely an item in the computation of the net trading profit.

and trading profits where it was

chargeable on the net balance of

ncome of the trade after

His Lordship was unable to accept that construction of the section. First, Parliament had clearly intended the section to apply to the profits or gains from any trade, for they were expressly included. Yet in relation to such profits or gains the judge's construction restricted the application of the section to the relatively rare case where the agent was carrying on the entire trade or business of the principal. There was no good reason why Par-liament should have intended the section to have such a limited effect

and every reason why it should Second, his Lordship was not convinced that, if it were given a narrow and literal construction. the second limb of the section would have even that limited

Its application was restricted to persons who were "in receipt of ...

friend Christopher Prince, on the

basis that it disclosed no cause of

. Mr Clunis, a mental patient,

while discharged into the care of the health authority had killed a stranger. Mr Jonathan Zito. He

The health authority argued that in order to establish the injury and

loss asserted Mr Clums had to rely on his avowedly criminal act and

that public policy would not permit

Mr. Stephen Irwin for Mr Chinis; Mr John Grace, QC, for

ing a substantial body of authori-

ties from the fields of contract.

inheritance, family and test summarised his conclusions as

I The maxim of ex turpi causa non oritor actio into right of action

arises from a base causel, was

strictly speaking, confined to con-

2 The current law relating to the

maxim was stated in Tinsley v Milligan ([1994] 1 AC 340). Where

the contract involved an illegal-

purpose of both parties that pur-

enforcement of the contract itself.

There was no room for any

him to do so

the health authority.

HIS LORDSHIP, after

sought damages for negligence.

chargeable to income tax. But "profits or gams" were merely a computed figure, a balance of credits and debits in an account, and they were not normally "received" in the strict sense of the

Even where an agent carried on the whole trade or business of his principal, and himself incurred all the expenditure necessary to en-able the profits to be made. accounting to his principal for the net balance of the profits, what he received was still strictly speaking the gross trading receipts and not merely the trading profits on which alone tax was engible. The strongly to the section not being concerned with what was merely a computed figure in an account.

His Lordship preferred the Crown's approach that, while the section appeared to have two limbs, they were not alternative nor were they mutually exclusive. Rather, in an endeavour to be comprehensive, the draftsman had been guilty of a degree of tautol ogy. On that approach, trading receipts fell within one or other of the two limbs and might fall within

section was enacted, such a construction gave less cause for concern than one which would make the section inapplicable to the vast majority of trading

receipts. The company had submitted that the farmer was not chargeable to income tax in respect of the sale proceeds; they were a receipt of his trade, not the profits of his trade. and he was chargeable to income tax in respect of the profits not the

His Lordship disagreed. The farmer was not taxable "on" his trading receipts but "in respect of them. The words in respect of denoted a looser connection than

Accordingly, his Lordship was sfied that the proceeds of sale fell within the first limb of the section as "money or value . . . of or longing to another person who is chargeable in respect thereof" and that they also fell within the second

application of the public con-

3 Where, in contract, the illegal

purpose or conduct was that of one

party to the contract only, the

courts would exercise a judement

based on public policy as to whether the wrongdoing was suf-ficiently deliberate, wicked or anti-

social to preclude enforcement of

the contract by that party.

4 A party with vested property rights acquired by reason of an executed contract with an illegal

purpose could retain and enforce

There were analogous but not

identical rules governing inher-

itance by a party responsible for the death of a testator and similar,

but again not identical, rules governing the granting of dis-

retionary relief in family cases.

6 The rules governing contract

did not apply in tort which had its own body of public policy rules,

tailored to the nature of claims in

7 The absolute rule postulated by

Lord Goff of Chieveley in Tinsley had no application in tort cases.

The fact that the claimant was

engaged on even a deliberate criminal enterprise when suffering the loss for which he sued would

not automatically preclude him

those rights by action.

Suing for failure to treat mental disorder

Importance of time limits

Mortgage Corporation Ltd v Sandoes and Others Before Lord Justice Millett, Lord

Justice Potter and Sir Christopher

Judgment November 261 Where time limits laid down by the rules and directions of the court for the conduct of civil hitigation had been complied with, parties should cooperate in agreeing a revised timetable which would not involve postponement of the trial. In the absence of agreement, an application should be made brounds to the court for

The court would not look favourably on a party who sought only to take tactical advantage from the failure of another party to comply with time limits.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the plaintiff. the Mortgage Corporation Ltd.
against the refusal of Mr Justice Astill on October 31, 1996 to extend Asim on Counter 31, 1990 to externa time for the exchange of witness statements and expert reports in its action against the defendants, Sandoes Blinkhorn & Co and Mr Brian Gibson, for professional negligence. The judge also refused the defendants' application to va-cate the trial date and for leave to call additional expert evidence.

Prior to the hearing before the judge neither party had served its witness statements or experts' re-ports in accordance with Order 38, rules 2A and 36 of the Rules of the Supreme Court and the direction of the court. The defendants op posed the plaintiff's application for extension of time.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr Peter Wulwik for the plaintiff; Mr Jonathan Ferris for the

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT said that the exchange of wimess statements and expert reports was a mutual obligation. If neither party was ready to serve its evidence by the due date, both parties were equally at fault. Why should one party only be penalised?

The judge had relied upon Beachley Property Ltd v Edgar (The Times July 18, 1996) which concerned an application for an extension of time for the service of witness statements. It was, how ever, a very different case.

In that case, shortly before the trial was due to begin the plaintiff had changed solicitors. The new solicitors had applied to the court for liberty to serve additional

No good reason could be given for the failure to include the evidence in the evidence originally exchanged, except for the fact that there had been a change of solicitors. Not surprisingly, Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, had indicated that that was not a good

The Master of the Rolls had dealt with the matter as one of principle and said: "Unless there were circumstances which justified the court exercising its discretion in favour of the party in default, that discretion would not be ex ercised and the party would be deprived of the evidence".

The judge had treated that as if the Master of the Rolls had said "Unless there were good reasons rules or directions of the court the fiscretion to extend time would not he exercised".

His Lordship would reject the argument that the absence of good reason was always and in itself sufficient to instifu the elf sufficient to justify the court in refusing to exercise its

All the Master of the Rolls had been saying was that once a party was in default, then it was for him to satisfy the court that, despite his default, the discretion should nevertheless be exercised. The party in default could do so in reliance on any relevant

His Lordship also pointed our that in Beachley it was quite plain that while both parties had earlier been in default, that was not a

ness statements had been ex-

changed, albeit late and by agree-ment. The relevant default had been that of the plaintiff alone. In the present case, the judge

1. Overlooked the fact that both parties were equally in default so far as the exchange of witness statements was concerned and that the defendants were primarily in default so far as the holding of an experts' meeting and exchange of experts' reports was concerne

2 Failed to consider the coning its application for an extension of time to serve witness statements (the probable loss of the claim) or ence those consequences against the consequences to the letendants of granting the application (with four weeks to go to trial,

3 Failed to take into account the defendants' attitude to the loss of the trial date. They were at one and the same time seeking to vacate the trial date in order to call additional expert evidence, for which they had no leave, while vigorously opposing the plaintiff's application for an extension of time on the ground that it might involve a postponement of the trial; 4 Misread the guidance given by the Master of the Rolls in

Beachley.
The judge had been plainly wrong in the exercise of his discretion and his order had to be

The court was acutely aware of the growing jurisprudence in rela-tion to the failure to observe procedural requirements. There was a need for clarification as to the likely approach of the court in the future to non-compliance with tained in the rules or directions of the court. What his Lordship said now went beyond the exchain witness statements or expert reports; it was intended to be of

Lord Woolf. Master of the Rolls and Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor, had approved the following euidance as to the future approach

general import.

which litigants could expect the court to adopt to the failure to adhere to time limits contained in the rules or directions of the court l Time requirements laid down by the rules and directions given by the court were not merely targets to observed.

2 At the same time the overriding principle was that justice must be

3 Litigants were entitled to have their cases resolved with reasonable expedition. The non-compliance with time limits could cause prejudice to one or more of parties to the litigation.

4 In addition the vacation or adjournment of the date of trial prejudiced other litigants and dis-rupted the administration of

volved the vacation or adjourn-ment of trial dates should therefore be granted only as a last resort.

6 Where time limits had not beer complied with the parties should cooperate in reaching an agree-ment as to new time limits which

being postponed.
7 If they reached such an agree ment they could ordinarily expect the court to give effect to that agreement at the trial and it was not necessary to make a separate application solely for that purpose. favour on a party who sought only failure of another party to comply

9 In the absence of an agreement as to a new timetable, an application should be made promptly to the court for directions. 10 In considering whether to grant an extension of time to a party who was in default, the court would look at all the circumstances of the identified above.

Lord Justice Potter and Sir Christopher Slade gave concur-Solicitors: Harris Rosenblan & Kramer; Ellion & Co, Manchester.

Judge powerless to edit irrelevancies

The Scotch Whisky Association v Kella Distillers Ltd Before Mr Justice Harman Ludement November 211

A judge, sitting interlocutorily, had no power to edit an expert's report in advance of the trial even when appeared to him that the report contained evidence that was not relevant to the action.

Mr Justice Harman so held in the Chancery Division declining to grant an order on the motion of the Scotch Whisky Association that a report dated October 25, 1996 by a Dr Pollock should not stand as an expert's report in the action unless amended "in the manner indicated in red on the copy amnexed hereto" The defendant was Kella Distillers

Mr Simon Thorley, QC, for the intiff: Mice I defendant

MR JUSTICE HARMAN said that the plaintiff brought an action to prohibit the defendant from calling a product it described a: "Manz Whiskey" whisky.

Its principal argument was that Manx Whiskey was distilled for a second time after the whisky from which it was produced had been matured which took the product outside the definition of Council Regulation No 1576 of 1989 (OJ 1989 L160/I).

The defendant maintained that its product did fall within the true construction of the regulation and pert's report from Dr Pollock. The plaintiff objected to parts of the report on the ground that they were directed to the expert's opin-ion about matters which had

absolutely no relevance to the issues in the action. His Lordship agreed with that view. Nevertheless he was greatly troubled by the nature of the application as a matter of law and as a matter of the legal powers of the court.

Mr Thorley said that the document produced by Dr Pollock was not a report of expert evidence within the definition of section 3 of evidence of opinion on any rele-vant matter on which he was qualified to give expert evidence Clearly Dr Pollock was qualified

to give expert evidence on a matter of that sort. Clearly there were ies in the action upon which Dr Pollock's opinion might be rele-

It did not seem to his Lordship that to say that he could give his

gave to the court any further power

to deal with the report once the report had been produced and exchanged. The parties had to produce those

reports. They were not, at that stage, evidence. They were not affidavits. They were not pleadings. None of the law or rules pleadings applied to experts' re-The documents were simply

reports exchanged between the parties pursuant to an order of the court which would lead to the giving of expert evidence if the expert survived until the start of the trial and would, at trial, go into the witness box and support his

report; a process which did not always in fact follow. Experts had been known to die between their report and the trial and also to repent of their report and be unwilling to go into the witness box and give such evidence. Editing a report which was

never given in evidence would be a vaste of time and effort. It was clear law from the sion of the Court of Appeal in Sullivan v West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (1)985 2 All ER 134, 136, 137 and 140) that the court had no power to consider

expert was admissible in ordinary

application.

Thus the Court of Appeal were

quite clear that no interlocutory power existed to attempt to edit evidence at that stage. A judge at trial having had this matter

> familiar than any judge interlocutorily could be in dealing with what was in truth relevant. At the present time, it seemed to judge, sitting interlocutorily and in advance, to take it upon himself to say that parts of an undoubtedly qualified expert's report were to be struck out in limine and before the

opened to him, would be far more

hearing. Mr Thorley suggested that the inherent power of the court to control its own procedure could be

include a power to edit the report of an expert and in his Lordship'siudgment there was nothing he could, at an interlocutory stage, do about the matter and he therefore declined to make any order on the

He added that this was a case in which he should be glad if the Court of Appeal were to overrule him and granted leave to appeal. Solicitors: Rouse & Co. Poplar;

Crucial date for liability for compensation

Regina v Investment Compensation Scheme Ltd, Ex parte Taylor

Before Lord Justice Staughton and

Mr Justice Tucker [Judgment November 29]

A claim in civil liability for compensation following dishonest conduct by a regulated investmen broker could only be entertained if liability occurred on or after December 18, 1986 and not before The Queen's Bench Divisional

Court so stated when dismissing an application for judicial review Joseph Taylor against the decision of Investors Compensation Scheme Ltd that he was not the Financial Services 1990, as amended by the 1991 rules. in respect of claims against echcroft Insurance Brokers

Mr Neil Kitchener for Mr Tavlor, Mr Jonathan R. McManus for ICS Ltd.

JUSTICE LORD STAUGHTON said that the 1990 Rules were made pursuant to section 54 of the Financial Services Act 1986. The concern in the present case was the effect on the 1990 Rules of an amendment in 1991 to rule 1.02(3).

Rule 1.02(3) provided: "Nothing in any rules made under section 54 of the Act is to be interpreted fif it otherwise would be) as authorising the payment of compensation on a claim except to the extent that the claim is a claim in respect of any description of civil liability in-

curred on or after 18 December 1986 in connection with the investment business of a person who, at the time compensation is to be naid, is or has been an authorised

In his Lordship's judgment, the revised rule was rightly framed as an overriding provision. When amending the rule in 1991, the Securities and Investments Board were stating the superior constraint on their powers not enact-

ing it for themselves. One had to interpret the relevant part of the rule, namely the words "claim in ... civil liability", without regard to the other parts or the other rules. One had to stay with the law as to the meaning of the statute which Mr Justice Morritt laid down in Securities and Invest268) and which was now encapsulated in the rule.

Mr Taylor's claim did not answer the description in the rule. It was a claim in civil liability incurred in April 1986 when he entrusted money to Mr Barrett of Reechcroft who promptly ran off with it. It was true that it was only in 1992 that the deception was discovered, but liability occurred when Mr Barrett made off with the

mutual scheme requiring honest traders to make good the losses of shonest traders. A charitable but strained interpretation of the rule would not avail Mr Taylor.

Mr Justice Tucker agreed. Solicitors: Robinsons, Derby:

Power to hear dispute over Northern Cyprus property

In re Polly Peck Internation-

Before Mr Justice Rattee Judgment November 29

dependants of Mr Zito.

The English court had jurisdiction to hear an action against a company which was in administration, based on allegations that the company's subsidiaries had trespassed on the applicants property in Northern Cyprus which had been seized during the Turkish

Although an action for trespato property necessarily involved establishing title to or possession of the property, it could not be said to be principally concerned with court was entitled under section 30(I) of the Civil Jurisdiction and nts Act 1982 to entertain the proceedings even though the property was situated outside the jurisdiction.

Mr Justice Rattee so held in the Chancery Division when granting the applicants, Marangos Hotel Co Ltd, Pharos Estates Ltd, Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Union (Sedigep) Ltd and Cyprus Ports Authority, leave to commence proceedings against the respondents, Mr Richard Anthony Stone, Mr Michael Anthony Jordan, Mr Christopher Morris, Mr Christopher John Barlow Polly Peck International plc and

Miss Barbara Dohmann, QC. Mr Ian Brownlie, QC, Mr Thomas Beazley and Mr Lawrence Collins. solicitor, for the applicants; Mr Michael Crystal, QC and Mr William Trower for the

MR JUSTICE RATTEE said that the application was the latest in a long line of litigation arising from the collapse of Polly Peck International pic which was in ninistration pursuant to orders made by the court.

The four applicants sought leave

under section 11 of the Insolvency Act 1986 to bring proceedings against Polly Peck, its admin-istrators and the scheme super-visors of a scheme of arrangement which had been approved which had been approved by the court under section 425 of the Companies Act 1985. Under section 11(3) of the 1986

Act the court's consent had to be obtained before proceedings could be commenced against a company during the period for which an administration order was in force. The first and second applicants were companies incorporated in

the Republic of Cyprus. The third applicant was a cooperative society with limited liability and the fourth applicant was described as a state body of the republic. The applicants' claims related to land which they had owned in the

area which was occupied after the invasion by Turkey in summer 1974. It was alleged by the applicants, and not disputed for the purposes of the present application, that following the invasion, the illegal government imposed on the occupied area by the invaders purported to expropriate, inter alia, the four applicants properties, namely, a hotel, an apartment block, a packaging plant and

Law 32 of 1975 of the Turkish Rederated State of Cyprus pro-vided: "All the immovable properties left in the Turkish Federated State belonging to foreigners, that is to say the Greek Cypriots and nland Greece people, is in the control possession, administra-tion and ownership of the Minister of Finance." The Constitution of 1985 of the Turkish Republic of

Northern Cyprus had similar pro-visions to that effect. By their draft statement of claim. the applicants alleged that since that appropriation, one or more companies which were subsidries, direct or indirect, of Polly Peck, had occupied each of the applicants' properties without the applicants authority and had thereby trespassed and that such trespass was with the active en couragement of Polly Peck.

In March 1995 the administrators, as part of the process of realisation of Polly Peck's assets, sold to a northern Cypitus company shareholdings in the comies which the applicants lleged had trespassed on their

properties.

The main relief sought by the applicants was a declaration that the administrators were constructive trustees for some of the consideration received from those sales. The applicants also sought an injunction to restrain the strators from dealing with the moneys received from those sales without giving effect to the applicants claims.

His Lordship said that there was no doubt that the United Kingdom did not recognise the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus which continued to have de facto control over the occupied area despite United Nations Security Council resolutions calling on it to withdraw.

The respondents contended that the court had no jurisdiction to entertain the action and that in any case it would be bound to fail because, in the context of the evidence the claims pleaded were

The question of jurisdiction was to be decided on the application of section 30(1) of the 1982 Act which provided that the English court's ings for trespass to, or any tort affecting, immovable property shall extend to cases in which the property in question is situated outside ... the United Kingdom unless the proceedings are principally concerned with a question of title, or the right to possession of.

His Lordship said that he did nor consider that the applicants' action would be principally concerned with the question of their title to, or right to possession of

their properties. Of course in any action for trespass to land, it would be a sine qua non of success that the plaintiffs proved their right to possession at the dates of the alleged trespass, but that right was far from the only substantial question raised by the proposed

In particular, it raised the ques-(i) whether Polly Peck itself

statement of claim.

characterised as trespass by it on the applicants' properties or any of

(ii) whether by piercing the corporate veil Polly Peck could be held responsible for acts of trespass by its direct or indirect subsidiaries, and, even if those questions were answered in the (iii) whether the applicants had any rights in specie in the proceeds

of the sale by Polly Peck of its shares in its subsidiaries as opposed to a right in personam entitling them to participate in the scheme of arrangement.

In his Lordship's judgment such questions could not be said to be merely incidental to the question of the applicants' right to possession of the properties.

Of course they would not arise unless that question was decided in the applicants' favour but they were substantial questions going to their right to the relief sought in the action. Accordingly, the court would have jurisdiction to entertain the proposed action under section 30(1) of the 1982 Act.

The applicants' draft stateme of claim contained claims which faced formidable obstacles, but in his Lordship's judgment it disclosed a seriously arguable case against Polly Peck His Lordship expressed no opin-

ion as to the prospects of success of the claim but it seemed right in the interests of justice that the applicants should have leave to make

Solicitors: Osborne Clarke; Cameron Markby Hewitt committed any acts which could be



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📕 POP 1

It has been a great year for those sexy crusaders of Thatcherism, the Spice Girls ...



■ POP 2

and Oasis continued to dominate the headlines for all sorts of reasons ...





. but the artist formerly believed to be a megastar

bombed out of

sight in 1996.



POP 4

.. and Sting was among the other big names who found the pickings slim this year

heir wns

POP: David Sinclair looks back on 1996 as the year in which tired old names finally rolled out of sight

Spicy climax to a year of big losers

arely had the bells fin-ished ringing in the new year than Britpop was declared dead. Oasis were far too big for such labels, and Damon Albarn, we subsequently learnt, had written and sung those chirpy, laddish songs while suffering from depression. It was time to But it was not until much later in

1996 that the extent of Britpop's impact was fully revealed. For this was the year that the new wave of bands finally achieved what punk had set out to do 20 years ago. The idea that in 1976 Johnny Rotten and Co might actually pose a threat to the dominant market position of rock's old guard and establish a new pecking order may seem laughable in retrospect, even if it was taken seriously then. But in 1996 that is exactly what the socalled Britpop bands actually did. Or so it seemed.

The groundwork had been done in 1995. In fact, the key players in the revolution did little this year. There were no new albums from Oasis, Blur, Pulp, Supergrass, Black Grape or Paul Weller, and it was left to the Manic Street Preachers to sweep the awards with their phoenix-from-the-ashes al-burn Everything Must Go.

But the year was notable as much for what did not happen as for what did. For no apparent reason, a string of albums by previously gilt-edged superstars, including Phil Collins, R.E.M., the Cure and Sting all failed significantly to sell what was expected.

The most startling turnaround was in the fortunes of Prince. Winner of the International Male Artist Award at the Brits in February, he alienated industry and fans with his desultory "contractual obligation" album Chaos And Disorder which sold fewer than 40,000 copies in Britain, and then unleashed a triple CD. Emancipation, that sank like a stone

The sound of established idols toppling reverberated well beyond the charts. The hubris of Michael Jackson brought forth nemesis in the shape of Jarvis Cocker: a laughable prank at the Brits turned into a PR nightmare which has done more lasting damage to Jacko's career in this country than all the lurid allegations of personal eccentricities put together.

Paul McCartney, standing shoulder to shoulder with Status Ouo and Iron Maiden, stooped to writing an article in the Daily Mirror complaining that the Beatles' new single, Real Love, was not being played enough on Radio 1.

He was lucky it got played at all. Radio I had completed the most radical overhaul in its musical policy since the station began broadcasting in 1967, and while vou did not have to be a young. swashbuckling new act to get on its playlists, it certainly helped. Chris Evans, whose flagship Breakfast Show and Channel 4 TV show, TFI Friday, offered a hoisterous mixture of the brilliant, the boorish and the bizarre, became one of the most influential people in pop. When he started schmoozing Sharleen Spiteri of Glaswegian has-beens Texas, or championing Chris Rea's eccentric film soundtrack, La Passione, you could almost hear



the sound of record company promotion budgets expanding to capitalise on the opportunity his

endorsement represented. Oasis staged a string of massive concerts at Knebworth, Loch Lomond and Maine Road, and while records by the older superstars languished in the lower reaches of the chart. their album (What's The Story) Morning Glory? achieved certified sales of 3,600,000 in the UK, equalling Simply Red's Life and Dire Straits' Brothers in Arms as the biggest-selling album ever released in the UK by a British act.

Pulp won the Mercury Music Prize. And albums by newly suc-cessful acts including Kula Shaker. Ocean Colour Scene and the soulful Lighthouse Family raced to single.

Britpop has succeeded where punk failed essentially by stealing the clothes of the old guard. Rather like new Labour portraying itself as the party of low taxation and sound economic management, the new bands have, generally speaking, got where they are by abandoning any notion of being a "radical alternative". Ash, Cast, the Bluetones, the Lightning Seeds, Space, Suede, the Boo Radleys, Skunk Anansie, the Longpigs: they are the mainstream now.

The old-timers had not entirely given up, however. The Sex Pistols returned in front of 30,000 fans in Finsbury Park. which was a surprising success. And on a chilly June day in Hyde Park, The Who. Clapton and Dylan attracted 150,000 for a musical nostalgiathon. The only performer under the age of 50 was Alanis Morissette, 22. who played fourth on the bill even though she sold more records in 1996 than the others combined.

But where were the radical new ideas coming from? Tricky made two albums. Nearly God and Pre-Millennium Tension, that were

were a host of self-consciously weird, trip-hop albums with titles like Let No One Live Rent Free In Your Head, that were too artfully contrived to make much of an impression beyond the pages of the music press. Beck's much-fancied album Odelay was a similarly

inally unisciable, and there inser	diable experience
TOP SENTING ALDU	NS OF 1996
Jagged Little PIII (What's The Story) Morning Glory?	Casis (Creation) Celine Dion (Epic) Spice Girls (Virgin) George Michael (Virgin) Fugees (Columbia) Robson and Jerome (RCA) Take That (RCA)

But the really exciting developments came from a disparate. collection of dance acts that are increasingly being bracketed together under the banner "new electronica". Led by the Prodigy, who are going to be the key act of 1997, the "movement" includes artists such as Underworld, the Chemical Brothers, Orbital, DJ Shadow and Faithless. All of them have thrived in the charts as well as on the dance floor and are now

becoming increasingly accessible. The phenomenon of 1996, though, was surely the Spice Girls: a 1.5 million-selling debut album. three chart-topping singles, includ-ing the Christmas No I, and similar success breaking out all over the world, with the one exception (so far) of America. Their take on the pure pop formula was witty,

made the equivalent boy bands, especially Boyzone, seem dull beyond belief. Unsurprisingly, then. the news that they considered themselves children of the Thatcher revolution became the biggest pop story since Oasis threatened to split up for a couple of days.

Pop musicians may regularly own up to acts of extravagant depravity without anyone turning a hair, and certain rap stars have been tried in the American courts this year on charges ranging from gang-rape to murder without attracting a murmur of condemnation from the music press. But in the wacky world of pop, expressing support for the Tories remains the ultimate taboo. If the Spice Girls can carry that off, they can get

Royal Academy of Arts Over 115.000 have seen Living Bridges and designs for a new Thames Bridge. Exhibition extended until 5 January 1997

Superb models of bridges. 'Living Bridges' also includes real and fantastic the Thames Water Habitable Bridge Competition. 'A stunning exhibition' Seven architects exhibit their designs

Sunday Times

18am - 66m daily, 25, 23, 60 cond. Royal Academy, Proceedity London W. 1, 0177-437, 7438

Living Bridges' is supported by the Corporation of Landon and the Générale des Eaux Group in association with "Living Bridges" includes the Thames Water Habitable Bridge Competition.

for a new inhabited Thames crossing

Welcome to the global ceilidh

THE CHIEFTAINS Santiago (BMG 09026-68602-2)

WE'RE all Irish now. Ry Cooder, Linda Ronstadt and Los Lobos join Paddy Moloney and the boys as they journey to Galicia in northern Spain, "the world's most undiscovered Celtic country". The result is a fascinatingblend of traditional Irish and Hispanic, with Carlos Nunez on the Galician bagpipes outstanding. There is a Mexican mariachi tune and a 30-strong Cuban choir and it only requires a small stretch of the imagination to hear the common thread. The Chieftains could so easily rest on their laurels after all these years. Instead they are still extending the boundaries of Irish music. Traditional, yes; stale, never.

CHEIKH LO Ne La Thiass (World Circuit WCD-046) THE world music album of the year, according to many judges. From Senegal and produced by Youssou N Dour, Cheikh Lo has a magical voice and writes lilting songs about the world around him. The sound is basically acoustic but ripples with both West African and Cuban rhythms. Warm and intimate with a spiritual

quality, the album is astomsh-

NEW ALBUMS OF WORLD MUSIC

ingly assured for a debut and is aiready on the way to making Lo one of the biggest names in African music. The effect on first hearing is positively spine-tingling - and it gets better with every play.

New Hope for the Dead

(JVC 9006-2) AN INTRIGUING but not always satisfactory "trans-global fusion", with elements of Chinese opera, Persian ballads, Balinese gamelan. indian film music and much else. It is the imaginative brainchild of composer Martin Gordon, and the cast-ofthousands blend is at its best exciting, if impossible to define - pop and dance, techno and traditional sounds swirling wildly together. Full marks for bravery but the result is overambitious: it is as if the album was recorded for one of those time capsules launched into space, attempting to make a composite of the music of the entire globe in 60 minutes. Unsuspecting aliens

will probably love it. NIGEL WILLIAMSON

Rock On rocks off

THERE might not seem to be an obvious connection between Camden Town be-British tourist attraction of 1996 and Rock On, a tiny run-down record store beside the Tube station. But the small shop was one of the reasons why people started coming to the area in

the first place. Rock On was opened in August 1975 by Ted Carroll, a genial Irishman who had co-managed Thin Lizzy, and his partner, Barry Appleby. The shop's collection of blues, soul, R&B, rockabilly, reggae and ska immediately made it a Mecca for serious record collectors and it was also one of the few places to cater for the

burgeoning punk scene. By the end of 1975, Carroll and fellow Irishman Roger Armstrong had used a small room above the shop to start Chiswick Records, one of the first independent record labels, whose roster included the Dammed and Motorhead and lesser known bands fronted by such future stars as Joe Strummer. Billy Bragg and

Jim Kerr. The presence of Chiswick Records and its close proxunity to Camden Town Tube station made Rock On

Camden's most famous

record shop is about to close

its doors

a natural hang-out for musicians, most notably the Clash, who lived in a dilapidated warehouse near by and would go into the shop to keep warm. Madness, Paul Weller, Elvis Costello, the Pogues, Van Morrison and Robert Plant were also Rock On regulars, and Bob Dylan bought records there while be was filming Hearts of Fire in the nearby Electric

In recent years, Rock On has attracted the more discerning among the new breed of Camden pop stars. Jarvis Cocker pops in, Noel Gallagher can be found browsing among the soul records, and Bobby Gillespie frequently calls into the shop to chat or play the staff tracks from the forthcoming

Primal Scream album. Most of the regulars automatically assume that Rock On is the north London record store on which Nick

Hornby based his best selling novel High Fidelity. Even though Homby insists that his book was not based on any place in particular, there are parallels between Rock On and his fictitious Championship Vinyl.

"Hornby's book could easily be about Rock On." says Carroll. "He managed to suss out the perviness of record collectors and just how far they will go to obtain certain discs."

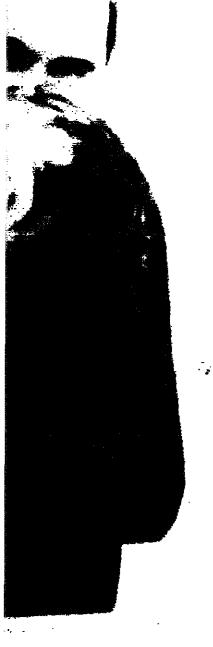
It is ironic that Rock On, kick-started the whole idea of popstars hanging out in Camden. should become a victim of the area's popularity. A massive increase in rent precipi-tated a joint decision between Carroll and the shop's manager. Paul Cwynarski, to call it a day --Rock On will close its doors

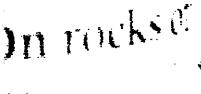
on New Year's Eve. It is not yet known what will open in its place, but it is unlikely to fill the gap left by one of the world's bestknown record shops. As Madness's Suggs says Rock On closing? That's the end. isn't it? Full stop."

ANN SCANLON ● Rock On is at 3 Kentish Town een Ilam and 6pm until











■ HERITAGE

Crowning glories: five of the finest go on show in a new exhibition at the Tower of London



■ CHOICE 1

Lewis Carroll would have loved the Mad Hatter's **Christmas Concert VENUE: Tomorrow**



Eliconomia de la companya della companya della companya de la companya della comp



■ CHOICE 2

Knockout stuff: Frank Bruno treads the boards in Jack and the Beanstalk VENUE: Now at the Alhambra, Bradford



FAMILY EVENTS

A dally guide to arts and entertainment complied by Gillian Maxey

BRADFORD: Frank Bruno joins magican Geoliney Durham and Ken Modey (Reg Hotesworth in Coronation Street; in the magical stay-tale of Jack and the Beamstellik. With Paul Squire Alhambra, Morely Street (01274 75200). Tompit, 2pm, 7pm, tomorow 2 30pm and 7pm; Sunday, 1pm and 5pm Then various times; contact box office for details. Closed New Year's Day Until February 8 50.

CARDIFF: Moncow City Bailer's Christmas reperiore includes the enchanting love story of Swan Leloudanced to Tcheltowsky's haunting sor Wish the National Bailet Orchestra St David's Half, The Hayes (01222 S78444) Tonight, tamorrow, Mon 2 30pm and 7.30pm, Sun. 5pm; Tue, 2.30pm. Until December 31

GLASGOW. Gerry Mulgrew directs Communicado Theetre Company's Crinstimas treat. Teles of Arabian Nightas, suitably localised, with a gen or a teaport. and suchfile: A least of stepstick, verse, music and magic.

ELSEWHERE

CHOICE 3

Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance whirls into Newcastle VENUE: At the Arena until Tuesday

Off with their crowns

Derwent May gets to handle the

royal sparklers as they are prepared for a show at the Tower of London

6 For

centuries.

coronation

jewels were

rented **9**

am forbidden to disclose exactly where I was, but the Crown Jeweller was leading the way. David Thomas, a quiet, middle-aged man, opened a door and ushered me into the London workshop of Garrard, the iewellery firm.

Craftsmen sat at benches round the large room, each working over a kind of scallopshell made of thick leather, with a little bunsen burner by his side. If a hot piece of silver falls on to the leather it might

burn it, but it will not burn right through and fall to the floor. And at the end of the day all the fine filings of gold and silver can be gathered at the bottom of the soft leather and saved. At least, most of them can — Bill Foreman,

the Garrard workshop manager, said that when a carpet was taken up after nine years on the workshop floor and melted down, it yielded a molten mass of gold. and silver worth £1,400.

One man was working on a tiara for a private customer, creating the fine filigree work into which some of the diamonds were already set. The mounts were lined with gold. which shone faintly through the translucent stants. The whole job would take him a year. But we were going to see something even more spectacular than a new tiara: four royal crowns, the state crown of George 1, the coronation crown of George IV, the coronation crown of Queen Adelaide in 1831, and the coronation crown of Queen Alexandra.

To be precise, we were going to see the frames of these crowns, for after a Coronation the jewels are traditionally removed, to be reused in an new crown for the next monarch.

Garrard, the Crown Jewellers, were doing repairs on these frames in preparation for a new exhibition at the Tower of London. They were being kept for the time being on a bench in a side-room of the workshop, two in modern boxes in blue leather, two in ancient boxes clothed in crimson velvet.

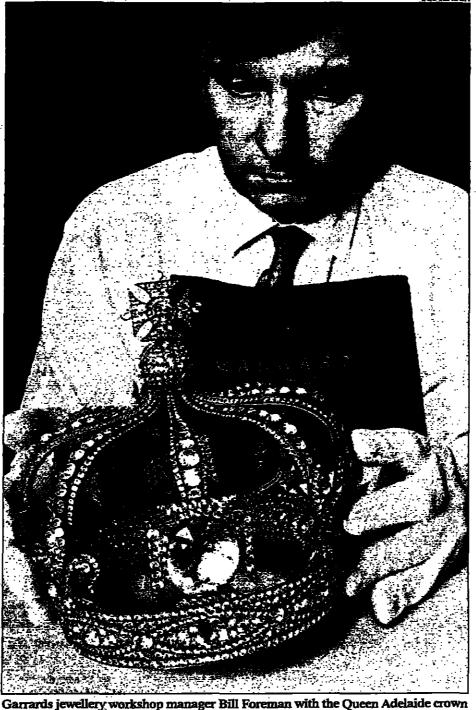
The most dramatic is George IV's coronation crown. The Prince Regent waited so long for his father, George III, to die that when he finally

came to the throne he was determined to have a really astounding Coro-nation. His huge coronation crown 12,314 contained diamonds - and this was before diamonds were found in profusion in Africa.

The silver and gold workmanship on this crown probably surpassed anything ever done of its kind. There had to be 12,314 mounts for the diamonds - many of them in very awkward shapes. Mr Thomas also brought out the original "cap" of purple velvet, which is placed inside the crown to fill it out between the four main silver "arches".

ueen Adelaide's Interestient crown is quite small by contrast, although very delicately worked. For this exhibition, Garrard had to remove the paste jewels and cultured pearls that had been put into it at some point. Coronation crowns are traditionally set with pearls and diamonds. The coloured jewels are reserved for state crowns such as George I's worn as the monarch leaves Westminster Abbey after the Coronation, and at the State Opening of Parliament.

Queen Alexandra's coronation crown is at present set



Garrards jewellery workshop manager Bill Foreman with the Queen Adelaide crown

with rock crystal stones, which are being retained for the exhibition. There is be a fifth crown frame on show, Queen Victoria's state crown, on loan from the Museum of London. At the Tower of London I met a 22-year-old assistant curator, Anna Keay, who has been researching the history of the crowns. Until Queen Victoria's time, the monarch generally did not own the Crown Jewels. They were actually owned by the Crown Jeweller, and rented from him for a month whenever there was a Coronation. The crown frames live an independent existence. Three of the ones I saw have only recently come back into the Crown's possession: the George I, George IV and Oueen Adelaide frames. When

Victoria came to the throne.

they were abandoned and given to the then Crown Jeweller, Rundell, Bridge and Rundell. That firm went bankrupt, and the frames were sold to Lord Amberst and largely forgotten until the family put them up for sale a year ago. They were offered through Asprey's for £3 million, and Prince Jefri Bolkiah of Brunei a present to the Queen.

heir return coincided with an idea that the curator of the Historic Royal Palaces, Simon Thurley, had been turning over — that there should be another permanent exhibition in the Tower telling rather more of the history of the Crown Jewels than is possible in the current display.

the former home of the regalia. and the scene of the only successful attempt to steal the jewels, by Colonel Blood in 1671 - has put the five crown frames on show as part of a new exhibition called Crowns and Diamonds. It charts the evolution of royal crowns in Britain and, in particular, the history. The most remarkable sight

So now the Martin Tower -

in the exhibition is George IV's coronation crown frame. For at its side is a heap of 12,314 diamonds — the number that would be needed to recreate it in all its glory. Worth £2.2 million, they are on loan from De Beers Centenary. Crowns and Diamonds is on

display daily (except Jan 1) at the Tower of London

LONDON

HANSEL AND GRETEL: Join the adventurous siblings as they ebandon the salety of their home to purney into the timest and the unknown, Peter Bridges directs the Genden Opera Company in a magical production of Englebert Humperfinite a territy opera. A delightful nitroduction to music drema for children aged six and over. Clinema 1, Berbleien, Six Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, somorrow and Sunday, 11am.

Sunday, 11am.
THE MAD HATTER'S CHRISTMAS
CONCERT! Explore Laws Carrol's
Wonderland with conductor Freser
Goulding and the London Concert
Orchestra. The testive programma
includes magacal stones, surprises and
ply music, including Solign Filde, Sonta
Caus is Corning to Town, Walking in the
Air from The Snowmer carbon and The
Hippopolamus Song With Alasdar
Mailoy as the Med Hetter and
Semantha Stew as Alice. Semantha Shaw as Alice. Burblean, Sik Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tomorrow, 3.30pm

MEDIEVAL MAGIC: Children sped MEDIEVAL MAGIC: Children aged three and over are invited to participate in the David Wood Magic and Masic Show (Sunday, 3pm) At 7:30pm, Sirhel presents the Lord of Miarule, a family concert of medieval carols, dances and colouful instrumental pieces. Part of the Dance "or Drone Festival. Parcell Room, South Bank, S21 (0171-960 4242). Sunday, 3pm, 7:30pm.

☐ AS YOU LIKE IT: Steven Pirriott's superbly cast production from this year's Strational comes to London where it will Stratock cortes of London where a war num until March. Barbican, Sil. Street, EC2 (0171-638 8991). Tonght and tomorrow, 7.15pm; mat Sat, 2pm. In rep (2)

IN BEAUTY AND THE BEAST. The Christmas shows at this theatire are among the very best in the country Laurence Boswell directs this yeer's, w marionettes and automate staffing the

Beast's palace Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363), Various times, 10 30em, 1.30p 2.30pm, 7pm Until February 1. THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE: Quick revival for Mertin McDonagh's well-crafted and gropping drama of love lost in Connemara. With ene Brennan as the trustrated auchter to Anna Manahan, daughter to Arma Menahan. Royal Court (Duke of York's), St Martin's Lane, WC2 (017)-565 5000). Mon-Sat, 7 30pm; met Sat, 3 30pm.

IT DEATH OF A SALESMAN AUT Amstrong plays the hollow man detuded by slogans in a competent production of Miller's drame. National (Lytetton), South Bank, SE1 (0771-928 2252), Tonight-Wed, 7.30pm; real Sat and Tue, 2.15pm, in rep.

FAMILY CURCLES: Early Aydidoum: three salers change partners for each scene, showing that

DAYLIGHT (12): Sylvester Statione rescues a cross-section of humanity from a blazzing New York tunnel Amissing obt-style disaster move ABCs: Balker Street (0171-935 9772)

Tottenham Court Road (0171-635 6148) Empire (0990-888 990) Odeon Swiss Cottage (01426 91408) UCI Withbeleys (0090-888990) Virgine: Chelses (0171-352 5096) Trocadero (0171-434 0031)

SURVIVING PICASSO (15). Anthony Hopkins as Picasso the women-ser, ar

Director, James Ivory. ma (0171-235 4225) Odeon

Swiss Compge (177-983:3857) Nanot (1971-937-9402) Risker (1971-737-2121) Screen on Balter Street (0171-935-2772) UCI Whiteleys (0390-888-990) Virgins: Fullmen Read (1971-370-2836 Haytzerket (0171-839-1527) Wanner

THROUGH THE OLIVE TREES (U):

EVITA (PG): Madenna sings with

passion, but production overkill plays havec with Lloyd Webber's rock opera.

West End (0171-437 4343)

devastated by an earthquake Renoir (0171-837 8402)

CURRENT

sting him, but en unsympathetig

NEW RELEASES

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marriage can be hazardous whoever you choose Entertaining froid Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Fischmond (0181-940 3833), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mate Thurs (Jan 2, 9, 16, 23), 2.30pm; Fin (Dec 27, Jan 3), 4pm; Sat 4pm. Until February 15

Clausery ME A LITTLE: Clever gathering of Sondherm out-takes, agreeably sung by Rebecca Front and Clive Carler in a 65-minute show. Bridewell, Bride Lane, EC4 (0171-936 3458). Opens today-Dec 30, Jan 1-4, 7-11, 7-30pm, mats, Jan 5 and 11, 4,30pm, Until Jenuery 11.

Trom, Trongete (0141-552 4267) Today, temorrow and Mon, 2pm and 7 30pm, New Year's Eve, 2pm; closed Jan 1 and 2 last periormances Jan 3 and 4, 2pm and 7,30pm

and 4. 2pm and 7.30pm

NEWCASTLE. Michael Flatley is joined by 38 tancers and a soprano singer at the flat of a twe-venue. British four of Lord of the Dense The Cellic dance spectacular, combaning tols culture and high-lech rock, is directed by Arisine Prifips. with sets by Jonathan Peri, and costumes by Sue Blane.

Newcestle Arens (0191–401 8000)

Sunday-Tue, Dec 31. 8pm. Next of Manchester, Nymex Arens (0161-930 8000, January 2-4

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0055). Royal Academy: From
Martiegra to Picasso (0171-439
7438)... Y & A: American Photography
1890-1965 (0171-938 8349/8441).

substance Pretty Irocks. Donimar Warehouse, Earthem Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat. 7 30pm, mars Wed and Sat, 3pm. PLUNDER: Grif Rhys Jones and Kevin McNally in meny, though terribly anoblish, Ben Trevers fance With

Kevin McNally and Sare Crowe Savoy, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7 30pm; mats today (Dec 27). Thurs and Sat, 2,30pm E SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE: Subthled

m seroket JOE'S CAPE: Subtiled "The Songs of Laber and Stoller". His Broadway compilation show Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987). Mon-Sat, Bpm, mals Thurs and Sat, 3pm LONG RUNNERS

☐ Blood Brothers Phoenix (0171-369 1733) ☑ An Inspector Calls: 1733) Si An Inspector Callin Garick (0171-494 5085) . Si Joleon Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . Si Martin Guerrer Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) . Si Missi Saigon Druy Lane (0171-494 5400) Si The Mousetrap Si Martin's (0171-836 1443) Si Olivert, Palledium (0171-494 5020) Si The Phentom of the Opeca Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) Tommy Shaltesbury (0171-379 5399) . Si The Woman in Black: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

SI A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM. Jonathan Miller's 1930s update makes the lines withy in unexpected directions. Almelda, Almelda Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) Mon-Set, 7 30pm, mat Sat, 3pm. ☐ NENE Yeslon/Kopit musical based on Fellini's 8 % Style elevated above

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

With Antonio Benderas and Jonathan Pryce Drected by Alan Parker Odeon West End (01426-915 574) ◆ THE PIRST WIVES CLUB (PG) Broad comedy about vengetul Manhattan wives, with purcy parts for Diane Keaton Bette Midder and Golde Hawn Director, Hugh W Empire (2) (0990 888990 impure (J. 1098) 888990) Odeona: Kensington (01426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) Screen/Baker

Screen/Baker Street (0171-935 2772) UCI Whiteleya (5) (0390 888890) Virgins: Pulham Road (0171-370 2636) Trocadero (5) (0171-434 0031) . JINGLE ALL THE WAY (PG): Aggresswely American Christmas comedy, with Amold Schwarzenegge

ROYAL COURT 0171 565 5000

cc: 420 0100 (24hrs) Downstairs (Duke of York's, St. Martin's Lane)

THE BEAUTY CLUEEN OF

LEENANE by Martin McDonagh Until 18 Jan. Mon-Set 7 30, Sat mat

330

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PLUNDER

5096) Trocadero (0171-434 0031) mer (0171-437 4343)

Black: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

◆ MATILDA (PG) Roald Dahl's tale

◆ MATILDA (PG) Roald Dan's tale about a precocous gri (Nara Wison) who trumpts over pesky adults. Danny DeVito co-stars and directs. Odeons: Kenslington (01426-914666) Switss Cottage (01426-914098) Ritzy (0171-737-2121) UCI Whiteleys © (0590-88990) Vingline: Chelsean (0171-352-5096) Trocadero © (0171-434-0031) Warmer (0171-437-4343) ◆ 101 DALMATIANS (U): Glenn Close knocks spots of the dogs in the live-action edgen of the cartoon classic With Jeff Daniels and Joely Richardson in 🕲 (0171-638 8891)

3323) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Lelcaster Square (01426-915 683) Swiss Cottage (01426-914098) Rio (0171-254-6677) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Baker Street (0171-935 2772) UCI Whiteleys (2) (0990 8888 Virgina; Chelses (0771-352 5096) Fullnam Road (0171-370 2636) THE UNBRELLAS OF CHERBOURG

(PG) Splendid revival of Jacques Derny's briter-sweet musical of 1964 With Cathenne Deneuve Barblean (0171-588 1891) Curzon Manylar (0171-589 1720) Richmond 0193-2910700 Spream on the Mich (0171-435 3366)

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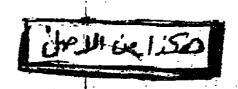
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EDUCATION

Should parenting be taught? Carolyn Savjani on a new instructional programme for mothers and fathers

On course for happy families

over whether parenting should be taught. Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, claims that it is easier to get advice on cars, homes, pets and even sex

than on being a parent. But is it a skill that can be learnt? Three couples who recently completed a preschool parenting course would say it is, although previously they were sceptical.

They all followed the Pram

to Primary School parenting programme published by the Down-based Family Caring Trust for parents and carers of children aged from birth to six. The course which is endorsed by leading children's organisations, including the Health Visitors Association, Barnado's, the Children's Society and the mainstream churches - was run by the Elim Pentecostal Church in Coventry, which all three couples attend. The programme consists of two-hour sessions every week for seven or eight weeks, including dis-cussion, case studies, role play

● Lee and Rachael Rogerson have two sons, Sam. aged two, and Nathan, three weeks. Lee, 27, is the assistant minister at Coventry Elim Church, where the parenting course was held. Rachael, 27, is a

LEE and Rachael Rogerson have seen radical changes in themselves and their son, Sam, since the parenting course began. Most have come about because they have learnt to relax and this has

made Sam more responsive.
"We thought," says Rachael, "that to be good parents we had to be authoritative and dictatorial. We were told 'Every day of their lives they are out to test you', and we were looking at parenting with

"Everything was a big test and we had to give a firm lead. Even play had to be: carefully managed. Now we have realised that you can relax and enjoy your

emphasis on learning skills, rather than absorbing information, with practice through-

the course. Topics covered include mis-behaviour and discipline, listening and talking to your child, encouragement and what is termed "quality time". The optional eighth session tackles children's spiritual

For all three couples, however, a key reason for the success of the programme is the recognition by the authors that every child, parent and family is unique - and that there is no single "right" way of

arenting.
Michael and Terri Quinn write in their introduction to the programme: "We hope that this will help you to figure out some things you could do in raising your children, not tell you what you should do. Our goal is to help provide some relief from the isolation and confusion you may experience, and to foster respect between you and your child."



Taking lessons in parenting helped Jay and Rosy Deeley, pictured with their children Anna, Katy and Leon

How to discipline the terrible twos

● Jay and Rosy Deeley have three children, Anna, two years three months, and ten month-old twins Katy and Leon. Jay, aged 34, is a computer instructor, and Rosy, aged 33, a nurse.

ROSY DEELEY explains

"Everyone said, 'Oh, she's two, now she'll have tantrums'. I wanted to find out how to deal with it." So Rosy signed for a parenting course. Not everyone thought it was a good idea. "We had some comments, like, Why bother to get a babysitter, to go and talk about babies? Can't you find anything better

Even Jay was unsure. But from the first session he was hooked. For the Decleys, doing the course together proved to be a bonus. "Just to sit down together and develop a team approach; we'd never done it before," admits Rosy. The fact that we were there together meant the children got some consistency."

But the biggest benefit has been in the area of discipline, - both now feel in control. Jay explains: "Beforehand there was this black hole what do you do to discipline? I got extremely frustrated because we had no solution

got angry because I felt I was helpless. Now I know what to do, and I don't go into a rage." Rosy adds: "I used to smack occasionally, but it wasn't effective. Now I haven't

smacked Anna since the course began; we haven't needed to do that." Three strategies have helped them: refusing to reward misbehaviour by paying lots of attention, offering limited choices instead of giving orders and using time

in the cot as a punishment. Anna was lashing out at the twins, which was becoming a problem. Rosy says: "I didn't want to alienate her from the babies, but she was aggres-sive. I found that cuddling the babies helped. Whenever she hit them, I cuddled them a lot,

nather than paying attention to her by getting angry."

Offering limited choices also helped to keep Anna in bed. "We gave her a choice between staying in bed with the door onen and the landing the door open and the landing light on, or getting out of bed and having the door shut," she says. "In the long term, if you start with a consistent later. It doesn't solve all the problems but you feel that you are making progress.

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Try to keep yourself calm

CHOICE FOR THE CHILD

children and allow them to express themselves — yet you can still be in control." Lee says: "We often live on the verge of breaking point. Every little crisis that happens seems to push us over the edge. But now we are looking for creative ways of showing the consequences of certain actions, rather than resorting to smacking and raising our voices.

Before, when we raised our voices, we were almost having to scream; it just didn't faze him because we were always at a certain pitch. But now we are much calmer, and when we do raise our

voices, it really has an impact."
The idea of offering choices to their child has helped the Rogersons. Lee explains: "We know what we want and we try to make Sam do it. But to present the child with a choice has made parenting so much easier. It makes Sam a part of the process and he feels much

more happy about it.

"Ignoring misbehaviour at mealtimes has also helped. In fact, Sam eats more

The course has also helped Rachael to relax when she feels under pressure to be the perfect parent with the perfect child. "It puts a tremendous strain on parents and we don't need it." she says.

Recognising in the group that we are facing similar problems, that we are not unique, was encouraging and very sup-

The Family Caring Trust can be contacted on

Less scolding can mean better behaviour

children — Lauren, two years ten months, and John, 14 months. Chris. 31, is a product manager for an automation company; Josie, 27, is a former BT customer service adviser.

JOSIE HOLT says: "Initially, I thought: What's the point? Nobody's going to tell me how to bring up my kids'." But Chris would admit with hindsight that it has been worthwhile. The idea of "playlistening", where the parent simply watches the child at play without making suggestions or giving instructions, has been invaluable.

Josie adds: "I found the idea awkward at first, but after we had

discussed it and acted it out in the group. I realised how much I intrude on what she's doing by suggesting other things that she's probably not even thinking about.

"Now I'm not directing her, saying.
"Why did you do that?", and she is using her own imagination. It is also building

The Times executive

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not just shouting at them all the time. I didn't agree with ignoring misbehaviour, but noticing the good things reduces the bad anyway. Their behaviour improves if you're not constantly telling them off."

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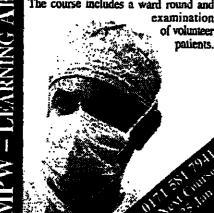
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Speaking to children with respect has also helped. Josie admits: "I never imagined that you needed to speak to a child respectfully. It did not occur to me that they have feelings. But since doing it, I have seen a difference. Lauren now says sorry to me without any prompting. She would never have done that

confidence and a sense of achievement in her, because she's not just being told what to do all the time." For Chris, "play-listening" has before. About halfway through the brought an added benefit. "It's a way of building a friendship with your child. me, but we have definitely noticed an it's easier for them to like you if you're improvement in behaviour." A FREE LUGGAGE TAG WITH EVERY ORDER

low to disciply terrible

Increasing readiness to sue for damages troubles insurers

INSURERS have given a warning that Britain is in danger of becoming a society "obsessed with apportioning blame and seeking legal

News that two sportsmen have been awarded damages for injuries sustained during matches has sent shockwaves through the insurance industry, which is becoming increasingly worried about the growth of American-style lawsuits. Last week a rugby referee lost his appeal against a damages award to Ben Smoldon, a young player who

scrum. Days later Brian McCord, the former Stockport County footballer, was awarded an estimated £250,000 in damages in the High Court over an opponent's high tackle that broke his right leg and ended his career. The Association of Insurance and Risk Managers, the trade body, said that Britain was becoming an increasingly litigious. society and everyone would pay the price in higher insurance

ina Barker, AIRMIC's executive director, said: "We are calling for common sense, and for people to be responsible for their own actions.

a cultural shift towards legal reme-

The Smoldon case was the first in which a court in England and Wales had ruled that a rugby referee can be liable to a player for injuries caused by his negligence. After the Court of Appeal upheld the original finding, lawyers for the referee's insurers said that they were considering applying for leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

The insurance industry is still reeling from proposals to make car drivers who cause accidents pay for their victims' NHS treatment. The change, suggested by the Law published on December 12, could save the NHS an estimated £120 million a year. However, the Association of British Insurers described the proposals as "staggering and outrageous". The ABI fears that they will result in soaring insurance costs, an increase in hit-and-run accidents, widespread vehicle insurance evasion and massive

bureaucratic and legal bills. Tony Baker, the deputy director-general of the ABI, added: "It would sh up the cost of insurance, not just for motorists, but for all policyholders who could be held at fault when an accident arises."

Although AIRMIC supports the

responsible for costs, the organisation is concerned that the proposals are "the thin end of the wedge" Ms Barker said: "As well as pushing up insurance costs, it could also increase legal costs as more cases are likely to be settled in court.

Donna Thomas, an insurance risk management consultant, expressed concern that North American "ambulance-chasing" lawyers were beginning to operate in Brit-ain. She said: "When I lived in Canada, we had a saying 'If you don't win the lottery go and slip on ice outside someone's door'. It would be to the detriment of British

here. People will become less likely to volunteer to help with school outings or amateur sports matches for fear of being sued, and will be reluctant to step in and help if someone is in trouble. This could result in facilities being

She cited the example of US insurers that withdrew child molestation cover for nursery schools. That meant that if a parent sued a school after their child was allegedly molested, the school would not have a policy which with to fight a legal case, and would probably have to close and declare itself bankrupt.

Fat cats continue to pile on pounds despite reforms

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TWO surveys out today show that attempts to rein back the rapid growth of boardroom pay awards are not working. The average pay rise for directors of Britain's top 250 companies was 8.6 per cent. double that of the rest of the workforce, and the gap be-tween the pay for directors and their employees widened

The findings cast doubt on the effectiveness of the inquiry into executive pay headed by Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman of Marks & Spencer. It proposed a seri es of voluntary

TOBACCO companies suf-

fered a serious setback in

their battle against anti-

smoking litigation yesterday

when a US federal court

rejected an attempt by the

industry to halt a damages

case brought by the State of

The federal court's deci-

sion leaves Connecticut free

to pursue its suit to recover

medical costs from the tobac-

co companies, including

Richard Bhumenthal, Con-

necticut's attorney-general,

said that it was the first time

that a federal judge had

dismissed this type of tobac-

co industry action against a

state. Connecticut's lawsuit,

Dec 20 Dec 24

BAT Industries, for treati

smoking-related cases.

reforms to boardroom paytimes the current inflation setting, backed up by some rate. Stock Exchange listing Looking at companies with

Examining the salaries, incentive payments, share options and benefits of more than 1,300 company directors in Britain's top 250 firms, Incomes Data Services, the authoritative independent pay analyst, found that some directors enjoyed pay rises of up to 600 per cent.

Overall, the median increase for the directors of the UK's top 250 companies was 8.6 per cent — about three

brought against seven major

tobacco companies, alleges

violations of the State's anti-

trust and unfair trade prac-

tice laws. Around 17 major

states and cities across the

US have filed this kind of

However, shares in tobac-

co companies have recovered from their low point in

the summer after the indus-

try suffered its first ever

defeat in a damages case in

Shares have risen because

of a bull in new litigation and

growing speculation that the

industry will strike a deal

with the re-elected Republi-

can Congress to resolve the

litigation problems.

WALLSTREET

ment is still under appeal.

-aimougn the ju

class action suit.

tobacco industry

By Alasdair Murray

The others in the top five increases were: 400 per cent for a director at Mercury Asset Management, the pension fund manager, taking that person's total listed re-Litigation blow for muneration to £1,050,000; 363 per cent for a director of WPP Group, the advertising

12 months to June this year -

are available - IDS says that

the highest rise went to Sam

Chisholm, chief executive of

BSkyB, which is 40 per cent

owned by News International,

owner of The Times. He

enjoyed a 609 per cent in-

crease in total remuneration.

taking the overall level to £4,716,000.

agency, taking the total to £1,139,000; 281 per cent for the chief executive of David S Smith, the printer, taking the total to £1,392,000; and 204 per cent for the finance director of Sedgwick, the insurance group, taking his total level to £859,000. The other survey, commis-

sioned by the Trades Union Congress, shows that the large gap between the pay of top directors and their employees has widened still further over the past 12 months - up by 4 per cent.

The TUC used data on all panies to work out the ratio between the salary and bonus, of a company's highest-paid director and the average employee pay in the same firm.

Though the ratio is still broadly 12-1 the TUC research

shows that the gap in the average has broadened over the 12 months to July 1996 by 4 per cent, in a calculation that takes no account of the share options and other perks that inflate boardroom remunera-



Frank Sytner may reverse into the stock market in the new year, or go for a flotation of the family car dealership business

Sytner drives towards market

A FORMER racing car champion is planning a £100 million stock market listing of the family car dealership business he has built up with the help of BMW since his retirement five years ago.

Frank Sytner, who is in his early 50s, was British Touring Car champion in 1988 and 1990, driving for BMW. But he was "asked to retire" in 1991 and went into the family business, Sytners of Nottingham, one of the Britain's best

known car dealerships. Taking full control of the company in 1992, Mr Sytner set about a rapid expansion plan. Sytner Group bought its second BMW dealership in 1993 and since then has taken on UK distribution of Alpina, the sporting car side of BMW, as well as dealerships for Mercedes, Land Rover, Ferrari and Volkswagen/

Audi, often being asked by the

manufacturers to take on

exisiting franchises.

ed largely by Schroder Ventures, the second-largest shareholder after Mr Sytner and whose director, Eric Walter, sits on the Sytner Group board. It is also supported by BMW, which has kept a close relationship with Mr Sytner since he left the racing team.

The company is expecting a turnover of more than £140 million for 1996, up from £90.1 million in 1995 and £56.5 million in 1994. Profits are

The growth has been fund-

growing similarly, from £480,000 in 1994 to £1 million last year and an expected £2.7 million for the year just about to end.

Mr Sytner say he wants to take a stock market listing in the new year, which will enable him to raise equity finance to expand further. This may come either through a reverse takeover of another market-listed motor dealer, or through a flotation in the early spring.

Costain investors to vote on assets sale

BY OLIVER AUGUST

COSTAIN shareholders are expected to approve the sale of two large assets at an extraordinary meeting today. The sell-off comes as the troubled construction group prepares for a change at the top.

Sir Christopher Benson, the chairman, is to step down early and Alan Lovell, the chief executive, will resign as soon as a replacement has

Both men announced their decision to quit earlier this month after a disastrous year for the company, during which its shares were suspended twice and it had to be rescued by Intria, a Malay-sian investor. Dr Azman Firdaus bin Shafii, an Intria board member, will replace Sir Christopher as chairman.

Dr Azman, currently a deputy chairman, came face to face with shareholders at the last extraordinary meeting three months ago when he was prevented from speaking by protesters against the Newbury bypass, Costain is building.

More shareholder protests are expected outside the London Arena where today's meeting is taking place. The Costain Independent Shareholders Association fears that the company's assets will be sold at "knockdown" prices.

Alisdair Stark, chairman of the association, said: "Given Costain's appalling financial record, the wise investor is he who has but a single

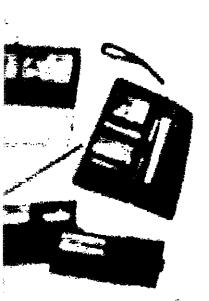
Protesters have said that they will attend another meeting on January 6 to approve the issue of more shares.

Today's meeting was called to approve the sale of Costain's US Coal business and its stake in the Spitalfields develop-

ment in the City.
The disposal of US Coal had been expected since July when Lonrho pulled out of a deal at the last minute. US Coal is being sold to Rencoal of America for £28 million.

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tion packages.

economic impact and importance to Britain of the travel

cent of employment this year. president is Sir Colin Mar-

jobs in next decade By OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN's travel and tourism industry is set to grow by a third over the next decade, creating more than 300,000 jobs, according to industry leaders. They are calling on the Government to adopt a series of policies, including fully-competitive air trans-port, to maximise the industry's potential.

In a new assessment of the

and tourism industry, business leaders forecast that the industry's autput in the UK will grow by 32 per cent in real terms over the next ten years. The World Travel and Tourism Council says the industry which the council claims is now the world's biggest — is a "key economic driver" in the UK, where it expects it to generate 11.6 per cent of Brit-ain's GDP and almost 12 per

shall, chairman of British Airways, says the outlook for travel and tourism in Britain over the next decade is "even brighter" than its current economic performance. The WITC says this is likely to lead to the creation of some 310,000 jobs. Sir Colin says: Travel and tourism is a key to future economic growth."



Marshall: outlook brighter

Tourism will boost | McGraw-Hill plans investors' network

BY ERIC REGULY from S&P, the financial ser-

MCGRAW-HILL one of the world's largest publishers, plans to launch an electronic personal finance service that will allow consumers to manage their investment portfolios from home. Joseph Dionne, the chair-

man and chief executive of McGraw-Hill, based in New York, said that the Consumer Investor Network should be launched in the US in mid-1997 and that this will be followed by a UK launch. McGraw-Hill will provide the content and is in talks with telephone and on-

people are taking personal responsibility for their investing and retirement plans".

The network will carry the Standard & Poor's brand and derive much of its content

line companies to provide the delivery system. Users will require a personal computer with a modem. Mr Dionne believes that the network has enormous potential because more and more

search reports on equities and up-to-the minute market data and news on everything from deht securities to currencies. The idea is to give consum-ers enough information to pick a portfolio that reflects

vices arm of McGraw-Hill.

S&P, best known for its bond

ratings service, includes re-

their investment objectives and tolerance for risk. Mr Dionne said that security sys-tems will be built in to allow users to place orders and The Consumer Investor

Network is part of McGraw-Hill's move back into the consumer market. Financial services, media services and educational and professional publishing form the bulk of its business.

Business Week magazine. which has a worldwide circulaton of about one million, is the company's most

days ago. Another sharehold-

Pemberstone beaten at Roman

By JASON NISSE

ANDREW BRUCKLAND, shire. He took on Pembermanaging director of the property group Pemberstone, resigned from the boards of the 34 companies that make up Roman Rentals, so ending a bitter battle to stop Pemberstone taking control of the **Business Expansion Scheme**

companies. Mr Bruckland's departure signals victory for the shareholder campaign led by Bruce Lawson, an accountant from Tenbury Wells, Worcester-

stone, which managed the Roman Rentals group, after the larger company made an offer for the assets of Roman Rentals that Mr Lawson believes severely undervalued

Each of the 34 Roman Rentals companies owns two starter homes in Flint, north Wales. Pemberstone's offer was worth £25,000 a house, compared with a value of £35,000 when the companies

were formed in 1991. A rival offer from Neill Clerk, the stockbroker, worth £29,000 a house has since been tabled. Mr Lawson's campaign, supported by David Arculus, Emap managing director, and Rupert Faure Walker, a City merchant banker, has already claimed the head of

Milton Psyllides, a partner of

Eversheds, the solicitors. who

was voted out as Roman

shareholders' meeting ten

ers' meeting is to be held on January 9, when Mr Lawson and John Farrant, a former public company director, will be voted on to the board of the 34 companies. They will put in place an orderly realisation of assets. Mr Lawson believes some shareholders may vote to accept the Neill Clerk offer, while others will wait for Mr Lawson to organise a sell-off of the houses remaining in the Rentals group chairman at a Roman Rentals companies.

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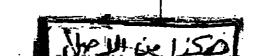
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European aid: a case of spending well but none too wisely

for a mere 65 ecu (£49), could turn Kenneth Clarke into a card-carrying member of the Referendum Party. It is the annual report of the Court of Auditors, the independent body charged with detecting fraud in the European Commission and ensuring that it spends its money wisely. Its conclusions - the Commission must do better.

The 368-page report contains a litany of loose controls, misdirected payments and plain old simple fraud. For instance, what would you make of the grant given for a rural tourism project in Tordehumos in northern Spain. Around £20,000 was given to a local businessman for turning a house into a hotel aimed at sporting customers. Only after this hotel failed to open did the EC auditors discover that it was really a weekend retreat for the owner.

Yet the same man was given a grant of

marketing of local agricultural and forestry products".

He said that he was going to breed partridges for hunting and would set up apartments for the hunters. When the men from the EC turned up they found the building had been let to a chicken farmer. They are now asking for their money back.

The drolly written report is packed with similar instances and wry observations about EC money being misdirected and not achieving its aims. Take the £126,000 spent on trying to cut down liquid manure pollution in Germany's Rhineland. The project was described as "neither an incentive nor a spur to innovation" in spite of being awarded with just those objectives in mind.

Or how officials in Cantabria, a region of Spain, were failing to pay out EC grants for up to 18 months. Or the grant to pay for teachers in the newly

Jason Nissé discovers a damning report by auditors showing widespread fraud and

incompetence infecting some EC projects

to be paid that the local government had already hired the teachers and given them six months' salary before the money came through.

Or the £4.8 million loss resulting from lax control of subsidies paid for rice exports to the island of Reunion in the Indian Ocean, which has a population of

Or what about the inquiry into the Danish feta cheese industry. It found that in the five years to December 1994, £360 million of subsidies were paid to promote exports of just £424 million, a decent proportion of which went to Iran. Or the aid programme for "non-

member Mediterranean countries" that ended up with the officials charged with distributing the funds giving El million

Or the biggest flop of all, the attempt to romote high-definition television (HDTV). The EC decided it would try to promote the new format by encouraging TV producers to make programmes for it. The problems with this "Vision 1250" initiative included: ☐ the Dutch producer who never made

any programmes in spite of being awarded £96,000 in grants; I the Spanish company that was given

£4.5 million of aid, in spite of having

watched the shows and found the picture quality was not up to scratch. They asked for £300,000 back. The report does not record if the refund was made: ☐ the programme maker (whose country

of origin was not mentioned) who received a grant in spite of not having any equipment to make the programmes.

And, in conclusion, the auditors found that having spend £172 million to pay for 51,703 hours of broadcasting and 17.036 hours of programming, the number of television sets in Europe that could take this output was fewer than 1 in 100, and the only people to benefit were Korean and Japanese manufacturers of HDTV

sets as these were the main ones on sale. But the point that is most likely to make the blood boil is the small paragraph on page 215. It notes that in an audit of all the projects for research and technological development it found that

capital of just £4,500. After the first contracts worth £130 billion, or an £530,000 was paid, the inspectors astounding 28 per cent of the budget, displayed irregularities. In other words, almost a quarter of all the payments were made to questionable projects.

> owever, there is a bright side. Auditing the books of the EC's headquarters in Brussels, the auditors found only £5.3 million of payments unaccounted for and £10 million of missing equipment. The report decided to concentrate on the building's £120 million of computer equipment and concluded, world-wearily, that "In this case the findings are positive the existence of these items can be verified. although their value has still to be clarified and the existence of wrong amounts is still to be ruled out."

In other words, the EC owns the computers it actually paid for. But it does not know if they are worth what they cost
— so that is all right then.

Airbus ready to resolve split over management

BY OLIVER AUGUST

A SPLIT involving Airbus partner companies is expected to be resolved at a supervisory board meeting on January 3. when the four-nation consorfium will decide whether management should be given direct responsibility for production facilities.

British Aerospace and Daimler Benz, want to hand control over Airbus's manu-

THE Eurofighter is facing a

serious threat from Lock-heed Martin, the American

defence group which has completed the assembly of

British Aerospace, which

expects substantial profits

from Eurolighter exports,

will encounter stiff competi-

tion because the US Govern-

ment is expected to allow

Lockheed to market the F-22

the first F-22 fighter jet.

facturing plants to the consor-

But Aerospatiale, the French partner, has resisted such a move because of fears that it would be weakened by the loss of control over the assembly lines. Currently, the individual partner companies have control over their slice of the production process. Airbus is to be turned into a

separate company in 1999.

siders believe that countries like Korea and Israel are the

primary F-22 export targets.

But Britain and Germany

have also expressed interest.

BAe has acknowledged that the F-22 will be a

superior aircraft. BAe has

been marketing the Euro-

fighter on the basis that it is

cheaper. But new estimates

show that BAe may be

significantly overestimating

Threat to Eurofighter

OUR BUSINESS STAFF

Aerospatiale and Dasa both have a 37.9 per cent stake, while British Aerospace owns 20 per cent and Casa of Spain 4.2 per cent.

The split over factory control was revealed this month and has evolved from differences in business philosophies on the supervisory board. The French fear that Airbus's own management is not experienced enough to take control of the plants. The British and German partners believe that while French fears may be justified, Airbus would face even greater dangers if it was to shy away from swift reor-

To compete with Boeing, which is set to merge with McDonnell Douglas, Airbus has to spend more on the development of a new 600-seat

But banks have indicated that funding will be available for such a project only if Airbus can transform itself into a single company. This, in turn, will enable Airbus to reduce its costs and to sharpen its decision-mak



Hot shot: Chris Wright scored with an £81,000 performance-related bonus in spite of heavy losses suffered by Chrysalis

Chrysalis rewards Wright despite losses

CHRIS WRIGHT, the chairman and majority owner of Chrysalis, was given a performance-related bonus of ESI,000 last year, even though the music and entertainment erous reported

salary of £511,000 in the year to August 31, up from £500,000. The performance element of his pay fell from £100,000 to £81,000, but the decline did not reflect the

loss of £5.4 million in 1995-96 against a profit of £1 million in the previous year. Operating losses, however, were 46 per cent lower at £5.8 million. Since 1994, Mr Wright has

Chrysalis reported a pre-tax £425,000 for signing a new professional basketball team. | norm.

five-year service agreement, and £550,000 under a longterm incentive scheme. Chrysalis's businesses

clude music publishing, the Heart and Galaxy radio sta-

Banks were a bad bet, survey says

By Jon Ashworth

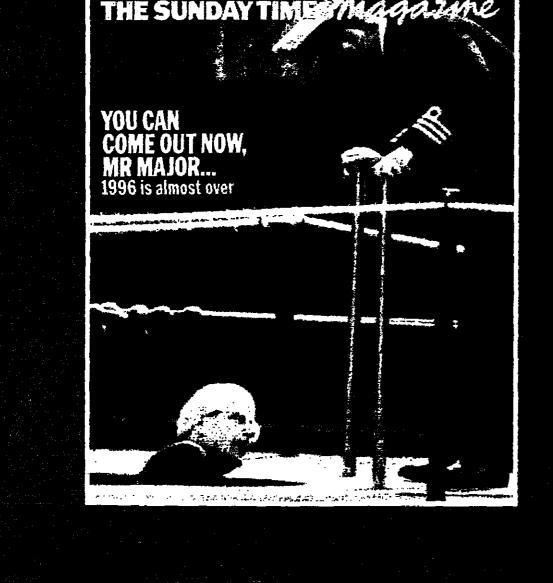
EUROPEAN banks have proved a dismal bet for investors over the past ten years, a Price Waterhouse study has found. Shareholders would have been better off investing in a portfolio that reflected the local market index but excluded the banking sector. The exception is the UK, where banks such as HSBC and Lloyds TSB have set the pace

in delivering value. Deutsche Bank and Banque Nationale de Paris have produced some of the worst returns for shareholders, ac-cording to Price Waterhouse. UK retail banks outperformed the market average strongly, as did banks in Belgium and The Netherlands, but the record across Europe as a whole is abysmal. Germany, Switzerland, France and Denmark are some of the worst

Guy Madewell, a senior Price Waterhouse partner, said banks needed to consider shareholder value at every level. Banking in the UK has grown more efficient since the recession. Innovators include Lloyds TSB, where emphasis is placed on whether a particular action will generate posi-tive cash flows. "Managing for cash" makes for more efficient decisions and generates more business, although "manag-ing for profit" is often the

Ailing computer giant pins hopes on Jobs, says Richard Thomson

THE SUNDAY TIMES MAGGAZA



WIN THE PRIZE OF YOUR DREAMS An E-type Jaguar or £10,000, see Style

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Apple's NeXT vital bite at success

tion to bring back Steve Liobs, one of the legendary figures of the personal computer industry, 20 years after he founded the company is likely to be its last chance to turn itself around.

At \$400 million, the struggling computer manufacturer is paying a stiff price for NeXT, Mr Jobs's software company, and for the advice of Mr Jobs himself, who will become a part-time consultant to Gilbert Amelio, Apple's chairman. The aim is to develop NeXT's software, NeXTstep, into a new generation of Apple operating software, a move which would help to restore the company's reputation for innovation and prop up its flagging share of the computer market.

Apple has been trying to buy a software company since it scrapped its Copeland project to develop new software earlier this year, having spent \$500 million on its development. Copeland was scheduled to have been launched in 1997. Until a few weeks ago Apple was in talks to take over Be, a

software company said to have a more sophisticated modern product than NeXT. Mr

Small firms

fight change

to labour law

SMALL FIRMS have rejected government plans to exempt

them from unfair dismissal

legislation, according to a survey (Alasdair Murray

writes). The British Chambers of Commerce survey found that 83 per cent of small businesses believe that the

current two-year limit for em-

ployees bringing a claim for

Dr Ian Peters, deputy director-general of the BCC, said:

The creation of a two-tier

system of employment protec-tion would be undestrable and

counter-productive." The BCC added that the Government should be concentrating on improving third party arbitra-

tion and weeding out unreasonable claims within the

existing law.

unfair dismissal is fair.

The company's market

with this one."

last 18 months, from nearly 10 Jean-Louis Gassée and David Marquardt, demanded too per cent to about 5 per cent, high a price. The NeXT deal was welcomed by most Wall and its shares have fallen by half to about \$22 because of Street analysts, who were en-couraged that Mr Jobs, 41, management turmoil, unpopular products and strong comwould be helping Apple. "It's reassuring to have Jobs back on board," said one analyst, Windows 95 software. Most importantly, Apple "but Apple is running out of time and can't afford to flop

needs a new operating system that will persuade other software programmers in the industry to write programmes for Apple computers. One of the company's biggest prob-lems is that there are fewer and fewer programmes avail-able for Apple users compared to the number available for other PCs.

NeXT's software was regarded as elegant and fast when it was introduced eight years ago, but some programmers say it has lost its edge as competitors caught up. It will now attempt to update NeXTstep and blend it with some parts of Copeland and existing Apple software to pro-duce a fast, innovative system. Ellen Hancock, head of technology at Apple, said that

it would be "easy" to adapt Nextstep in crucial ways to push it ahead of competing

Mr Jobs, who only a few months ago said that Apple was dead. He set up NeXT after he was ousted from Apple in 1985 in a bitter power struggle with John Scully, the executive he brought in to boost Apple's mass market sales. Trying to repeat Apple success, Mr Jobs launched NeXT eight years ago as a combined hardware and software system, packaged in a sleek-looking black shell. It never took off and the company shrank to being a niche

software developer.

I Jobs, meanwhile. turned his attention to Pixar, his computer animation company. which made the film Toy Story, and tried without success to sell NeXT. Talks with Apple began early in November, when NeXT executives heard that Apple was having trouble clinching a deal with Be. Over the following weeks Mr Jobs persuaded Apple that NeXT was a good buy, although the deciding factor appears to have been that he and Mr Amelio found they worked well together.

Jobs: part-time consultant systems when Apple launches Answers from page 29

(c) The fourth king of Judah, c.813-849BC. His father Asa, who ruled for 40 years, had put an end to the strife between Judah and Israel, which had been going on since the lounding of the two sister kingdoms by Rehoboam and Jeroboam. Jehoshaphars reign in Judah covered roughly the same years as Ahab's in Israel.

(a) Prophet, author of the shortest book in the CT and the obscurest. Like Habbakuk's his life spanned the Babylonian conquest of Judah, but his special feature is his venom against the Edomites. Since they lived east of the Jordan. The Edomites were perlicusly exposed to the power of Babylon and forced to submit to it. For Obadiah this was treason, and he

AMRAPHEL children from the cast. Amraphel made war on five kings from the cast. Amraphel made war on five kings from around the Dead Sea. Abraham then defeated the kings from the east. The identification of Amraphel with the great Babylonian lawgiver Hammurabi, once generally accepted, creates serious chronological difficulties, since the control of the cont Hammurabi flourished c.2050BC, at least 500 years before Abraham.

(b) A murderous thug. A servant of king lish-bosheth, the son of Saui, whom he mandered in hope and expectation of a reward from the rising man. David. However, the young man on the rise ordered instead that he be executed, along with his fellow ruffian, Rechab (not the testotaller).

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE l Qh5: and if I ... Qxh5 (I ... Qe7 2 gó is crushing) 2 RB+ Kg7 3 Rg8

Buys Australia \$... Austrie Sch . Belgium Fr ... Canada \$ Cyprus C£ Denmark X France Fr Germany Der ... Greece Dr ...

Italy Lire

Rates for small dec



e too wise

'Baring' up in Changi

HAPPY new year, Nick Leeson. Away from home for the second year running, the rogue trader is still safely ensconced in Singapore's Changi prison complex. Aiming for the earliest possible release from the six-and-a-half year prison sentence provided that he behaves himself — Leeson has his sights set firmly on waving goodbye some time in the summer of 1999. Meanwhile, I hear that Leeson is keeping himself busy, employed in an *unspecified prison job". It doesn't sound as if the maverick is earning a fortune — he gets around £3 a week, which all goes on food additives to supplement his rather basic diet.



Leeson: earning just £3 a week

Scottish lament

THE decision by Burnfield to cave in to the £57.7 million bid from Fairey was good news for David Simpson, the PR whose hapless task it was to defend Burnfield. Simpson, who doubles as managing director of Ludgate, Christmas after missing a trip to see his mother in Scotland last weekend. "I don't think your mother can divorce you," Simpson tells me. "But if she could, I would be divorced."

Dolled up

hite at succ

THE Barbie doll craze is now moving into the fashion scene. Designers are about to hitch on to what they believe could become a new craze among little girls who have dreamt of looking like a Barbie doll. In Japan, Itochu Fashion Systems is planning to produce adult-sized Barbie styles — the undergarments, the dresses, and all the other fashion accessories which would fit any age group between 15 and 25. It is reckoned that they could be in the shops next

Shop talk

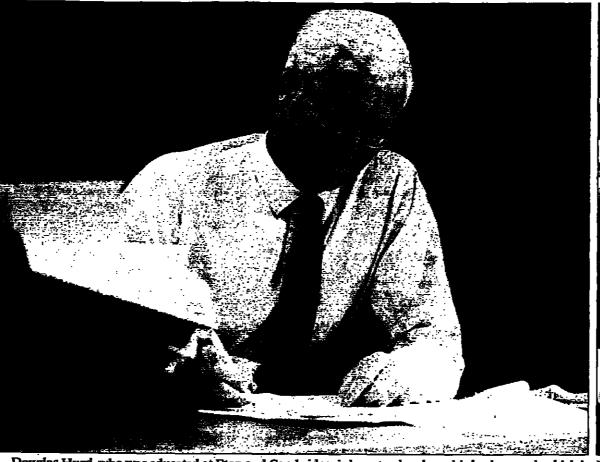
AN UPDATE after my story that Ann Robinson is to join the British Retaīl Čouncil as its new director-general and Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover is handing over his crown as president at the end of November 1997 to Lord MacLaurin of Kneb-worth Word has it that it will be "another grocer" who next year replaces bustling Mark Souhami as chairman.

Rhubarb cure

A HANGOVER cure from Selfridges for anyone who has over-indulged during the festive season. Jaded City revellers might want to venture in to Selfridges on their way to the office, where the in-store nurse is serving a drink of effervescent Vitamin C, or two Panadol with a dose of her secret rhubarb remedy.

JOHN PRESCOTT has delighted staff at Allied Dunbar, boasting that he holds a policy with the assurance company. How sweet of the deputy leader of the Labour Party to pass on the good news to Sandy Leitch, the chief executive of British American Financial Services, Allied Dunbar's parent company. Why this policy of disclosure?

MORAG PRESTON



NatWest's foreign minister keeps up his travels

ton and Cambridge is the classic background for the City. Throw in the diplomatic service, thriller writing and a time crossing swords with Baroness Thatcher, and it can be seen why NatWest Markets was so keen to recruit Douglas Hurd when he left the Government 18 months ago.

Frustration drove him from Whitehall in June 1995. He no longer wanted to hold the fiddle for the Euro-sceptic Paganinis in his party. John Major had offered him the deputy prime ministership ahead of Michael Heseltine - a little known fact - but he declined. After 21 years in Parliament he wanted his freedom back. No more ministerial red boxes or rednosed backbenchers foaming at the

The political animal divorced himself from the beast of burden. He still makes speeches and votes, but he does not have any paperwork and says triumphantly: "And the other thing is — you don't wake up with a worry on

vour mind." Staring out of his eighth-floor London, he loses himself in recollections. Memories of 16 years as a minister weigh heavily, if not on his mind, then at least in his language. "It was quite wearing, always working, fun. varied, I enjoyed ... but now the pressure is off."

Nevertheless, his job description has changed little. He is still keeping his air miles account level with the Russian cosmonauts. "I love travel and I'm travelling almost as much as when I was Foreign Secretary. I enjoy meeting people in their own habitat. I went to ten countries in seven weeks during the autumn. I can't do very much while Parliament is sitting because, you know, there is a sort of precarious

majority." In London, Mr Hurd wakes at 7am and listens to Radio 4's Today programme. Then it off to the NatWest offices. "I run my life from here. I am usually here in the morning and go to Parliament in the afternoon." Most evenings end with a Westminster vote at 7pm or 10pm. He has yet to escape

the crack of the party whip.
In an average week, Monday will see. him address a conference outside London, He will meet French ministers in Paris on Tuesday, host a Whitehall lunch on Wednesday, go to Scotland on political and banking business on Thursday. On Friday and the weekend, he mingles with constituents in

Oxfordshire. Mr Hurd will relinquish his seat at the next election to devote himself exclusively to NatWest. He is a nonexecutive director on the main board. Its meetings are, apparently, not unlike those he attended in Downing Street. But his main job is deputy chairman of NatWest Markets, the group's investment arm. His experience of dealing with foreign dignitaries serves him Oliver August checks out the hectic

working life of Douglas Hurd

well. He says: "There is a lot of welcoming people here. One of the terrible phrases in the City is: It's a people business. A big, profound discovery. If you have some Russian tycoon or minister or governor of the central bank, the first thing you have to do is get him talking, get him interested, get your points across. These are common skills."

Effortlessly, he makes banking sound like another branch of politics. That he's largely ignorant about finance seems to matter little to him or his employers. His age, however, he cannot deny. Starting a new career at 65 raises the obvious question of how long he will stay. Obvious it may be, but not to him. His friends apparently think that the switch from politics to finance has made him look younger. He says so with a perfect politician's

wrinkles could indeed be linked to finance. Mr Hurd's own finances that is. He does little to dispute suggestions that he is paid more than £200,000 a year for a three-day week. "All the time I was in politics the rather small capital which I started with was gradually running down. It is nice that that is no longer so. Like many politicians you don't think about your own finance because you know if you do you are

going to get depressed." Taking up a company directorship is a Hurd family tradition. Young Douglas followed his father to Westminster, who himself had followed his father. After a Commons career and a stint as agriculture correspondent The Times in the 1920s, Douglas's father became a director of several Falkland Island companies.

"He was a farmer, really, he was a tenant farmer in Wiltshire," Mr Hurd says. He omits that to the rest of the Empire he was known as Baron Hurd. After years of teasing about a silver spoon being part of his well-bred features, Hurd junior is keen to play down his background. Eton. Cambridge, the Cambridge Union presidency and a stint in the Civil Service hindered rather than helped his polit-

During his 1990 bid to succeed Margaret Thatcher he insisted that he was not a toff. But fellow Conservative owners rather than estate agents and voted for John Major.

The move to finance has not silenced public criticism. His NatWest appointment was preceded by the Nolan committee's expose of sleaze in the Major Government. The Labour Party quickly portrayed his job change as driving a coach and horses through the spirit of the Nolan recommendations. He retorted with a list of explanations. He claims never to speak for NatWest, or on banking, in the Commons and after a distinguished career in politics says he is not employed as a consultant



The former Foreign Secretary with President Mandela of South Africa

or lobbyist. He fully complies with the new rules, he says.

The next public row came earlier this

year. Mr Hurd was caught negotiating the privatisation of Serbia's phone company with President Milosevic, an old acquaintance. Of all EU foreign ministers, Mr Hurd had always seemed the least critical of Serbian genocide in Bosnia. Mr Hurd says: "It is in our interest that Serbia should be both politically and economically liberalised. I can't do anything about the political side. They are wrestling with that in the streets now. But on the economic side, if they want to move towards privatising, it's in everyone's interest they should do that."

e still sounds like a House of Commons man who relishes gladiatorial debates. But he says he no longer feels a great thrill when he sits in the chamber. A new passion has entered his life - not banking but literature. "I have several years of writing books ahead of me," he says. He just finished the last sentence of a

It is named after a poem by Thomas Hardy that describes the Titanic being built in Belfast while at the same time thousands of miles away the iceberg was taking shape. A Shape of Eyes deals with a Prime Minister recovering from a heart attack. He must decide whether to continue in office.

Mr Hurd says: "He resolves to go on and everything seems fine. The skies are clear, no particular crisis. And then about five things go wrong including in his personal life. The novel is about how things just pile up. I hope it conveys the feel of that."

Mr Hurd says that he has been careful not to caricature former colleagues. "I juggled all the characteristics up." But the heart attack plot inevitably leads to his old rival Heseltine. The two first crossed swords in 1974 when Mr Hurd beat the Deputy Prime Minister to a seat in

His passion for writing is really a return to an old hobby. A Shape of Eyes will be Mr Hurd's tenth thriller. He wrote the last one 15 years ago. "I scribble in ordinary WH Smith notebooks," he says. "It then gets typed so I can alter it on the screen. I need about an hour to get going, but if you are on a long plane journey, or half a day at home without interruption, it flows quite easily."

Before he started writing again he admits to having felt lost. He had followed politics passionately since his university days. His departure from Whitehall had created a vacuum.

However, he was rescued by the City job offer. In the end his move amounted only to a change of props. The grand staircases of the Foreign Office were replaced by slick Bishopsgate lifts. Meet Douglas Hurd, NatWest's foreign minister.

Partnership begins to look shaky

Eileen McCabe says Irish success may undermine further economic progress

clue to the very differ-ent economic back-Aground to the Republic of Ireland's four national pay agreements from 1987 lies in their

The first was the "Programme for National Recovery": the one which ends on December 31 is the "Programme for Competitiveness and Work"; and the agreement which has just been negotiated is the for-ward-looking Partnership

Earlier this month, the country's social partners the Government, trade unions and employers' groups - made their way to Dublin Castle to fight their corner over who should get what, where and when. As they did so the OECD predicted that Ireland's remarkable GDP growth rates which reached 10.3 per cent in 1995, will continue at at least 6 per cent until 1999.

Although all Irish people are proud of the international plaudits that have greeted the emergence of the "Celtic Tiger", some of the pay masters at the talks, must have hoped for a dilution of the "feel-good" factor which now permeates Irish life. Around the negotiating ta-

ble, they discovered that in a time of plenty, everyone wants much more.

After the obligatory latenight sessions, the stage-managed threats of walk-outs and the public cries of "no surrender", the new pay deal began to take shape. First the private sector pay agreement was sealed at 9.25 per cent over 39 months. Then

sector public settled for the exact same insame period with certain provisos governing local pay bargaining and productivity deals. Finally, the

welfare groups, including the Irish National Organisation for the Unem-ployed, signed

up when the Government agreed a 1r£525 million package to combat social exclusion and increase social welfare.

The social partners

met at Dublin Castle

The 79-page Partnership 2000 deal also includes broad agreements on tax cuts and job creation over the next three years.

As in previous years the deal will now be put to a national ballot of workers. But unlike previous years, Ireland's workers in 1996 are not suffering from the fear of forced unemployment or emigration.

It was those twin terrors along with double-digit inflation which drove their representatives to the first pay talks that eventually led to the 1987 deal. The Republic's economy was in tatters: the national debt had bal-looned from IrE7.9 billion in 1980 to almost IrE22 billion in 1986. Unemployment was running at 17 per cent, and, each year, more than 40,000 Irish people were forced to hit the emigration trail in search of work.

The national scare forced the unions to take a much longer-term view of their members' interests and the Government to adopt a much more rigorous approach to public finances. The result was the 1987 Programme for National Recovery, which laid down a series of measures to reduce public borrowing. Public sector jobs were shed, hospital wards were closed and those lucky enough to be in employment accepted meagre wage increases.

According to Terry Baker. an economist with the Economic And Social Research Institute, that agreement and the two that followed contributed to Ireland's almost miraculous recovery which today allows it to boast one of the fastestgrowing economies in the OECD.

Ireland's debt-to-GDP ratio fell from 116 per cent in 1987 to 85 per cent in 1995 and according to the OECD's latest Economic Outlook, should drop to 71 per cent by 1998. The same report pegged Irish inflation at 2 per cent for the next two

The pay agreements have allowed Ire-

land's job creation agencies to highlight excellent industrial relations as well as low corporation tax rates when they trawl the world looking for corporate investors.

This in turn has helped to create more than 150,000 new jobs in Ireland in the fiveyear period to April 1996. Despite the new iobs, the country's unemremains at a stubbornly high rate of almost 12 per cent, mostly gration has been reduced

to a trickle. But Ireland's boom has one

downside. Although the fear-induced wage and public-spending restraint of the

late 1980s has now been replaced by the challenge of satisfying the Maastricht criteria for membership of Europe's monetary union, there is a feeling that a Brussels directive doesn't carry the same weight with wage earners as impending economic disaster Even though the vast ma-

jority of workers are expected to accept their union leaders' recommendation to vote for Partnership 2000, there are already rumblings from some sectors that wage restraint has gone too far.

Recently the leaders of

some nurses' unions were publicly humiliated when their members voted to reject a pay deal which they

had recommended. If that gap between union leaders and members spreads to other sectors, Partnership 2000 may be ireland's last national pay

BUSINESS LETTERS

From Mr Peter Chappell Sir, I read with interest the article on the flotation of the Halifax Building Society and the sour grapes on the part of the City at not being allowed a "free lunch" on the existing members' profits (December

It does appear that there is a certain amount of variation being shown in the share price of many of our leading companies not truly reflecting the trading position of Great Brit-

ain plc. Taking Guinness as our example, whilst the All-Share Index has risen, or been inflated over the last four years from 1,580 to 1,955 points, Guinness's share price shows a fall from 501p to 438p despite record profits in 1996.

As the City cannot print

money without the aid of

companies' increased profits West Midlands.

from exports, in order to absorb the newly privatised banks and utilities, some shares have had to be

devalued One blot on the UK stock market horizon, however, is the regulator for the privatised utilities. Reading Northern Ireland Electricity's latest report, the price cutting imposed by the regulator has reduced the corporation tax paid back into the economy by several million pounds. Chancellor

With the forthcoming January sales, now is the time to invest in those UK companies, the shares of which are discounted against the real market. Yours faithfully, PETER CHAPPELL

31 Brooks Road,

Sunton Coldfield,

Share prices not always the true value Retuning operation for Channel 5 is crackbrained goes to the trouble of allowed to start on the basis of

From Mr Colin W Robertson Sir, We learn from Eric Reguly (December 11) that Channel 5 has been "retuning far too many homes" and now intends to retune only those where the occupants have complained of interference from a test signal, presumably without having been told beforehand when the test signal would be transmitted.

This test appears to be unsatisfactory in concept because the outcome depends entirely on whether the occupant of the home happens to be in a position to notice interference at the time the test signal is transmitted, correctly identifies its cause and then fore, if done at all, retuning needs to be done on all

Letters to the Business section can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.

complaining.
If Channel 5 is permitted to proceed in this way, it will be scandalous. Let us be clear that it is not homes that are retuned, but TV receivers and video recorders. Therefore, even if a home is really immune from interference, the equipment in it would need retuning if transferred to a less benign location, or, in some cases, if used in a different way. I think I have the right to expect that the original facilities and portability of my equipment throughout the UK will not be impaired by the advent of Channel 5. There-

ment, regardless of its present In fact, it is almost beyond belief that Channel 5 was ever

potentially affected equip-

such a crack-brained operation as the invasive retuning of equipment in 14 million homes. If there was no room for a fifth terrestrial channel,

this should have been accepted as a limitation. What is so magical about drawing the line at five terrestrial channels instead of four? Retuning cannot have positive value for the consumer. Many TV receivers and video recorders will be damaged by accident, ignorance or incom-petence during retuning, and, at best, the equipment will work no better than before. Is it really too late to stop this

Yours faithfully, COLIN W. ROBERTSON. 7a Talbots Drive, Maidenhead,

informative:

With effect from 2 January 1997 the following interest rates will apply:

Moi	rtgage	
Agreed overdraft for balances up to £10,000	9.00%	9.31%
Overdraft Rate	%pa	%EAR

Equity Release Loan

if a mortgage is held with First Direct or no other mortgage is outstanding on your property:

To All loan amounts 6.49% pa 6.74% pa

If a mortgage is held which is not with First Direct. 8.49% pa All loan amounts 8.74% pa Member HSBC (X) Groun First Direct is a division of Micland Bank pic



A year of golden shares and copper-bottomed scandals

pay-packets, ambitious mergers, and the occasional scandal to brighten things up. The Maxwell brothers walked free, a Japanese copper trader caused pandemonium, and Barings executives were hauled over the coals. The stock market raced up and up, with fund managers pondering when the bubble would burst.

Tempers flared at British Airways, which announced a triumphal link-up with American Airlines, only to see the exercise snarled up in red-tape. Bob Ayling, BA's chief executive, and Bob Crandall, American's chairman, waxed lyrical about the benefits to consumers. although

Richard Branson and things differ-Heathrow and They ridiculed the luggage claims that carousels lines' dominance of the mysteriously north Atlantic routes would be anything

less than anti competitive. Separate talks aimed at liberalising air agreements between the UK and America made little progress. Ayling suffered grief on other fronts, narrowly averting a strike by BA pilots, then enraging employees with plans to shed 10,000 jobs, stripping El billion out of the business within three years. BA needs money to upgrade its fleet of

heads rolled at Heathrow and the luggage carousels mysteriously ground to a halt. The National Lottery spun its way through another year of howls and catcalls. Camelot, the operator, reported record profits, but fared less well with instants, which have halved in

737s to meet new European

noise regulations. The first

takes place in February.

Tim Holley. Camelot's chief executive, went for a quick nap in St James's Park one lunchtime - and saw his photograph splashed across the front cover of a national newspaper. Peter Davis, the lottery regulator, endured public grillings by MPs, then began to bare his teeth, clamping down on under-age sales of lottery tickets.

The year had its tragedies In July. Amschel Rothschild. tioned as heir-apparent to the Rothschild banking dynasty, was found dead in a Paris hotel Matthew Harding, the insurance millionaire and deputy

chairman of

Chelsea Footbali Club. Heads rolled at died in a heliin Cheshire. He was flying back London after watching a Chelsea football match in ground to a halt Bolton.

Branson's Virgin Group went into overdrive launching its longawaited Johannesburg service, and starting European services from Brussels. Virgin branched into trains and cinemas, took on marketing for label, and pushed heavily into financial services. Branson dressed in a frock for the launch of Virgin Bride, then flew to Morocco for another ballooning escapade. He even

shaved off his beard, Stock markets tested new highs, and industry was awash with takeovers. The biggest shakeout was in the utilities sector, which witnessed bids worth £10 billion this year.

The City was swept by fresh scandals. Peter Young, a star

Jon Ashworth charts the

ups and downs and comings and goings of 1996

It was a year of breast-beating by Britain's accoun-

tants, who did something

totally out of character, and

disclosed how much they are

paid. Colin Sharman, senior

partner in KPMG, confessed to

earning £740,000 last year.

Nick Land at Ernst & Young

got by on £427,000. Other Big Six accountants sniffly avoid-

ed publishing their accounts,

but it can only be a matter of

The year saw more depar-

tures from the corporate stage.

Lord Weinstock stepped down

from GEC after 33 years at the

helm. Next to go is Lord

Hanson, who announced his

intention to retire next Septem-

ber, when he turns 75. He

started unravelling the Han-

son empire — and saw his pay

George Staple, director of the Serious Fraud Office

packet shrink accordingly.

fund manager at Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, made a sharp exit in September, after it emerged that his investment strategy was not quite as defined in the corporate brochure. Morgan Grenfell went on to pledge about £200 million in compensation to 100,000 investors.

Panic erupted on the copper markets in June, when it emerged that a Japanese trader. Yasuo Hamanaka, had run up losses of more than El-5 billion in ten years of allegedly unauthorised trading. Hamanaka, senior copper trader at Sumitomo Corporation, was later charged with fraud and forgery. City regula-tors called for changes at the London Metal Exchange in the wake of the Sumitomo Affair.

Nick Lesson's legacy fived on, as former Barings execu-tives were hauled before City regulators. Fines and reprimands flew, and Peter Norris, the former Barings chief executive, was banned from the City for three years. The Treasury Select Committee criticised the Bank of England over its handling of the Barings case. Mary Walz, one of the executives responsible for supervising Nick Leeson, lost her claim to a £500,000 bonus.

There was better fortune for John Clark, who was ousted as chief executive of BET after it was taken over by Rentokil in April Clark took Rentokil to court, and was awarded more than E3 million in compensation. Judges in Strasbourg ruled that Ernest Saunders was treated unfairly over Guinness, but threw out his claim for nearly £5 million in

tant to Direct Line Insurance. of the UK's fastest-growing

Things went awry when the Department of Trade and Industry started disqualification proceedings Hinchliffe. Receivers

Stella Rimington swapped

MI5 for M&S, signing up as a

Things turned out less favourably for Elizabeth For-

syth, one-time aide to Asil

non-executive director

Marks & Spencer.

were appointed to Facia, and the fare of 8,000 employ ees hung in the balance. The bulk of the group was sold, saving most of the jobs. The re-

(SFO), came under fire over his handling of the Maxwell case. The SPO announced its intention to have a second crack at month. Kevin following his acquittal in January, but the case was later thrown out by the courts. Television viewers were treated to a delightful "at home" family portrait. A bungling Nigerian iraudster tried to enlist Staple in a scam. Staple

stands down in April after four years at Elm House. Sparks flew in April, when Peter Robinson was sacked as chief executive of the Woolwich Building Society. The hapless Robinson was spending some of his E300,000-a-year salary in the Caribbean, when a friend rang to say all was not well. He returned to allegations about the use of Woolwich gardeners, electricians

Robinson said he was the victim of a "smear campaign". and complained that his 89year-old mother had been harassed by reporters. He recently signed up as a consul-At about the same time, one

retail empires was heading for trouble. Stephen Hinchliffe, a Sheffield-based businessman, turned Facia into one of the high street's most visible chains, with names including Freeman Hardy Willis, Sock Shop and Red or Dead.

> It was a year of breast-beating by accountants, who did something totally out of character

put into liquidation earlier this Lloyd's of London's ambitious

Reconstruction and Renewal (R&R) plan. Women in finance and industry enjoyed a vintage year. Sheila Masters of KPMG be-Their efforts paid off, when, in August, more than 90 per came a dame in the Queen's Birthday Honours, and Julia Cleverdon of Business in the cent of the 34,000 Lloyd's names worldwide voted in favour of a £3.2 billion settle-Community was appointed CBE. Marjorie Scardino ment aimed at drawing a line with the past. Hundreds of scaled the heights at Pearson. Denise Kingsmill was appoint-Lloyd's workers lined the balconies to watch Rowland ring ed a deputy chairman of the the Lutine Bell. Monopolies and Mergers Something was bound to go - the only Commission wrong, of course, and Lloyd's woman to make the post - and

ended the year struggling to pay out cheques to names owed money under the settlement. Talk of chaos in the computer room was hotly denied. The battle to squeeze money out of refuseriles comin-

laundering £400,000 in funds

stolen from Polly Peck Interna-

tional. The outcome was a

blow to Nadir, who had hoped

an acquittal would clear the

way for his return to Britain.

He remains in self-imposed

The outcome of Granada's

E3.9 billion bid for Forte was

decided by Carol Galley of

Mercury Asset Management.

As Sir Rocco Forte bowed out,

Gerry Robinson began sizing

up buyers for the Forte hotels. Prince al-Walced bin Talal, the

Saudi billionaire, paid £104 million for the George V Hotel

in Paris. Mandarin Oriental

bought the Hyde Park in

London for £86 million. Sandy

Lane in Bar

bados wern

for £38 mil-

lion to a con-

sortium led

by Dermot

Desmond, the

Irish investor.

Lime Street,

David Row

land and Ron

Sandler spent

the year la-

bouring

Down at

exile in northern Cyprus.

No festivities in this shop

Except for Laurence Olivier's curiously disengaged Scrooge in a 30-minute Radio 2 offering on Christmas Eve. Dickens in festive mood has been little in evidence on BBC radio this Yuletide. There is certainly a lack of holly, goose, laughter and plum pudding in Elizabeth Proud's six-part dramatisation of The Old Curiosity Skop. which reaches episode three this morning. Proud has done Bor proud. Much of his dialogue and plotting remains intact, and what has gone is no great loss; this is not Dickens at his best. Denis Quilley is a good choice for storyteller, but I just can't reconcile Tom Courtenay's Quillo with either Phiz's or Cattermole's illustrations of Courtenay's Quilp with either Phiz's or Cattermole's illustrations of

Whispering Among the Leaves. Radio 4. 3.30pm.

Every second of Sarah Blunt's feature proclaims it to be the work of Every second of Sarah Blunt's teature proclaims it to be the work of BBC Bristol's Natural History Unit. This is the kind of documentary monopoly nobody could possibly object to. Blunt sends experts into woodlands to record the sounds made by those birds, insects, rodents and primates who depend on trees for finding food, luring a mate, and even sending out distress signals when lost. The tree cricket uses leaves to amplify the sound its wings make. The death wanth beetle raps its head against wood to attract a mate. The great spotted woodpecker's eight-times-a-second hammering pinpoints the spot where juicy larvae lurk. And there's more..... Peter Davalle where juicy larvae lurk. And there's more...

96. Pete Tong presents the best ne-music of this year, 10,00. One in th

we Wright 6,00 Val Doonican 7.00

5.05am The Umpire Surkes Back with Mark Hurst 6.05 Jeans Gentus 7.00 The Breakfast Programme 9.00 The Maga-zine with Diane Madill 11.05 Never Walk (4/5) 11.35 The Food of Love and (4/4) 12.00 Midday with Mair am Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Edm; with David McNell 7.36 Parkinson on Sport 9.06 Friday Sport. Zimbelowe v England 10.06 Paper Task, with Jay Rayner and Brisn Alexander 11.00 Night Extre, with David

TALK RADIO

Phillip Hodson 2.80pm Tommy 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Sports

All times in table 1 News of the Indian 5.20em Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 Off the Sheff 7.30 Heritage 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Music Review 8.45 Record Progress 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Focus on Faith 2,30 Multitrack 3,06 Sport 3,15 Record Progress 3,30 Music Review 4,15 World 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 People and Politics 10.30 World Today 10.45 Spor 11.10 Spotlight 11.15 knister's Guide 11.25 Book Choice 11.30 Multitrack 12.30em Seven Days 12.45 Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.55 Words of Felith

CLASSIC FM

Sminns Zoughr neck base; Idealors sky (1812 Overture); Mozart (Symphony No 40, 1et Movement); Strauss (Blue Danube) 5. 00 Classic Showcase 7.00 Travel Guide 1997 Holday Preview 8.00 Evening Concert. Respigin (The Pines of Decemb As Easte Nithhola in the Gersten of

VIRGIN RADIO

Cp sej; pergan (Notes to and X. Nouveau Livre de Notes) Morning Collection. Berlioz (Overture: Les Francs-Juges);

Mendelsschn (Six Songs without Words, Op 102 Book 8); Copland (Vocalise) Musical Encotinters, Bach (Cartata No 151 (Susser Trost, Mein Jesu Kommt): Thouraire (Tremendous Fergus); Weber (Clarinet Cuintet in 8 ftst) 12.00 Composer of the Week: Tchelkovsky 1.00pm News; Bristof Lunchtill Concarts, From St George

ncerts. From St George's,

Concerts. From St George Brandon Hill. Emperor Quartet. Haydin (Shring Quartet No 5 in F, Op 5, Dream); Webern (Six Bagatelies, Op 9); Mozert (Shring Quartet in F, K590) Preoccupations. With the

2.00 Preoccupations. With the planist Artur Pizero
2.15 Music Restored (r)
3.00 Mitring the Archive Includes Sizet (Suite (L'Arlesienne, excepts); Bax (The Garden of Fand); Tchaikovsky (Suite: The Nutcracker)

Shostakovich, Berio, Messiaen, Schnittle and Simoson (5/5) 6.45 Digital Masters. Includes Saint-Saéns (Rapsodie

d'Auvergne in C, Op 73); Grieg (The Bridal Processi Passes, No 2 On 10) Passes, No 2, Op 19; Granados (Melancolica, No 10, Op 37; Strauss (Traumerei, No 4, Op 9); Prokofiev (March in F minor) 7.30 BBC Philiparmonic, under

BBC Philitarmonic, under Yan Pascal Tortellar, With Yan Paeca Tonteker, With Janics Watson, sopreno, Valerie Hartmann-Clayerie, ondes martenot, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, plano, Huddersfield Choral Society. Poutenc (Gioria); Messaien (Turangalia-Symphonie) 9.20 By Woody Alleri (5/5) 10.00 Hear and Now. Sarah Walker introduces an all-British editor and talks to some of

edition and talks to some of the composers leatured Composers of the Week: Ernest Chausson and Henri Duperc (r) 1.00am Through the Night

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00
Naws Briefing 6.10 Ferming
Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day
6.30 Today 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island
Discs (FM), with comedian
Jarneter Saunders (I)
9.00 Test Martch Special (LW)
Zimbabwe v England
9.45 United States of Anger
(FM) With Gavin Ester (3/6)
10.00 News; Wheath Ester (3/6)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Test Martch Special (LW)
11.30 The Old Curlosity Shop
(FM) See Choice (3/6)
12.00 Park Sench and Co (FM)
12.25pm The Food Programme
(FM) with Derek Cooper

(FM) with Derek Cooper 1.00 The World at One 1.07 Test Match Special (LW) 1.40 The Archers (FM) (r) 1.55

Shipping
2.08 The Classic Serial: Alice in
Wonderland (FM) (1/2) (r)
3.00 Breath
3.30 Whispering Among the
Lesves. See Choice
4.00 News 4.05 The Canteen

4.45 Short Story: Christi Present 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping 5.55 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping 5.55
Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.15 Going South (1/4) (r)
6.30 An Everyday Story of
Eurofolk With Liz Rigbey
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week
8.05 Our Next Question Please.
Jorathan Dimbleby recalls the
high points of Any Questions?
8.50 Ninety Not Out: Lady
Pulbrook talks to Ned Sherrin
9.15 Letter from America
9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: The
Gospel According to Black

Kaleidoscope Feature: The Gospel According to Black Volcas, Midiands vocal group Black Volcas discuss the Importance of the Gospele (A)

Gospels (r) 10.00 The World Tonight 10.45 Book at Bedlime: High

10.45 Book at Beditine: High Spirits, by Robertson Davi (5/5) 11.00 Year Ending 11.25 Fourth Column 11.45 Famous for 15 Misutes 12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book Sir Henry at Rawlinson End (5/5) 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-98.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 683, 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.65em). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197. 1275. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089.Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

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STARTS TODAY



No appetite for Mr Baxter's stale turkey

Stamina holding up? Good, long way to go yet. Day three of the Christmas television marathon and it seemed like a good moment to go in search of a bit of Stanley Baxter. And why not? Morecambe and Wise are still very funny, why not Baxter?

Well, I'm not entirely sure why not, but the simple fact is that on the evidence of last night's Stanley Baxter in Reel Terms (Channel 4) he just isn't - not very, anyway.

Perhaps it's to do with the fact that while he may be 70. Baxter is still very much alive and working. Fobbing us off with a programme that consisted largely of repeats sorry, I mean classic clips - from programmes he made years, and in some cases decades, ago seemed to be cheating. I mean, when did you last see a comedy sketch about Maurice Chevalier?

Then there was his muchtrumpeted guest star, Dawn French I didn't have a stopwatch

on it, but my guess is that her appearance lasted all of 30 seconds and ended with a Robert Maxwell punchline that was a good five years out of date. Almost topical really ... unless of course French was a recording too, a sort of classic guest star along the lines of André Previn Spotting the difference between

the old and the new was not always easy, which is a tribute to Baxter's much-admired technical skills but not much of an endorsement of his latest scriptwriters. The most up-to-date reference I spotted was to the anniversary celebrations of VE-Day in a gentle spoof of the Queen's speech. The effect was spoiled by me eventually remembering that the 50th anniversary was actually last year and by the Queen finally wishing us all a very happy 1986.

Watching Baxter at work remains awe-inspiring. The prepara-tion, the make-up, the

characterisation — it's all meticulous, as you would expect from a man so often dubbed the performer's performer. But once you get over the sheer deverness of him being able to play every part regardless of sex or age, the slow pace of the prerecorded one-man show begins to pall and you eventually long for a face that hasn't got his flexible features hidden somewhere behind the

make-up. The only modern performer who comes close to Baxter in technical ability is Paul Whitehouse of The Fast Show. Its Christmas Special is on tonight, and a compare andcontrast exercise should prove enlightening.

Back in Albert Square and EastEnders (BBC1), a familar pattern to what passes for festivities was beginning to emerge. People kept disappearing. First it was Billy Jackson on Christmas Day, now it was Joe "he's been REVIEW Matthew

Bond

feeling a bit down" Wicks's turn to do a Yuletide runner, fuelled no doubt by concern that Grant Mitchell might turn "comforting"

occupation. "He was heading towards the canal," said poor deluded Nigel, ever anxious to please. Not the canal, we all gasped. Doesn't he know what happens to people who head towards the canal? Amazing-

his mother into a full-time

anything rash by Grant's promise that he'd be his best friend. Poor kid, sicker than we thought.

Grant celebrated his Good Samaritan act by giving Lorraine the Boxing Day elbow — which at least was back in character. "I don't want you to think I was just using you, but ..." But, Grant?
"But right now I want to be a dad, I want to have a baby." OK, so it was halfway back in character.

So while Lorraine wiped away the single tear that the occasion merited, Grant stalked off to save his marriage - no doubt with the help of the same brother and mother who made Christmas lunch such a memorable occasion. Can't wait for New Year's Eve. Earlier, the Editor of The Times

was cited in The Willows in Winter (ITV), apparently for writing a deposition in defence of Mr Toad of Toad Hall who, at that precise moment, was facing 116

of attempted murder of a chimneysweep. The Editor of The Times, mused the head judge, the most important man in the kingdom . . . * Toad, naturally, was released immediately — although he might not have been had the judge known that the letter was actually written by Badger. Very similar writing styles, apparently.

his, of course, was the sequel to the original animated adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's book made a couple of years ago. Long gone are the days when lack of material stood in the way of television progress. Wil-liam Horwood had penned a sequel and so it was that Toad became a fearless aviator and Mole was swept away by the icy river. It being Boxing Day afternoon, both, I am pleased to say,

survived to tell the tale. The strength of the film was that

it had been drawn every bit as beautifully as the original. Its to give today's children what they expect from cartoons, the makers have understandably concentrated on the rumbustious and easily accessible slapstick of Toad. This was good news for Rik Mayall who, characteristically, gives his enthusiastic all in providing the voice, but less good news for those who hold Rat, Mole and Badger dear and yearn for the magical, riparian and - dare I say it quiet charm of Grahame's book. That said, I expect the intended audience couldn't care less.

Finally, a few words of explanation. Santa and his elves may have delivered all our presents in time, but the head of light entertainment and his pixies were working right up to the last minute on 2Point4 Christmas and One Foot in the Grave. So whatever you thought of them ... I quite agree.

displan after dele

BBC1 7.00am NEWS (T) (2500485) 7.10 Joe 90 (7007992) 7.35 Pinocchio (1729669) 8.00 News (T) (5168824) 8.10 Barney (4628195) 8.15 Follow that Sleigh (7531485) 8.35 The Legend of Prince Valiant (6554398) 9.00 News (T) (3707176) 9.05 Incredible Games (4322992) 9.30 Record Breakers (81805) 10.09 Playdays (2915843) 10.20 The Pink Panther (3569640)

10.40 FILM: Supergir! (1984) Comic strip adventure starring Helen Stater as the Man of Steel's cousin, who journeys to Earth on a mission to retrieve a mysterious and magical crystal, Also with Faye Dunaway and Peter O'Toole. Directed by Jeannot Szwarc (42434553)

12.40pm WIPEOUT (9219737) 1.10 NEWS (T) (99294824) 1.22 REGIONAL NEWS (480(8534) 1.25 NEIGHBOURS (T) (58703244)

1.45 JUST WILLIAM A headmaster attempts to sign the mischievous little boy up for his posh prep school (445008) 2.15 DISNEY TIME Sean Maguire introduces a session of festive fun from Inverness.

Including clips from The Sword in the Stone, Toy Story, Mackey's Christmas Carol and 101 Dalmatians (8334076) 2.55 FiLM: Grease (1978) Musical starting John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John as a star-crossed high-school couple.

Directed by Randal Kleiser (95724) 4.40 THE WORLD OF PETER RABBIT AND FRIENDS (7194466) 5.05 BLUE PETER: THE BEST BITS (I)

5.35 NEIGHBOURS (r) (1) (308909) 6.00 NEWS (T) and weather (452195)

6.15 REGIONAL NEWS (440350) 6,30 BIG BREAK Jim Davidson introduces a festive edition of the snocker-based show with guests Petsy Palmer, Bella Emberg, Floella Benjamin, Steve Davis, John Parrott and Dennis Taylor (114)

7.00 DAD'S ARMY (r) (8911) 8.00 ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES Part two. Del buys a new manual to help him show the confidence to make positive

decisions. Concludes Sunday (4331) 9.00 NEWS (T); regional news and weather

9.30 FiLM: The Firm (1993) Thriller adapted from the novel by John Grisham starring Tom Cruise, Gene Hackman, Holly Hunter and Jeanne Tripplehorn, A bright, young Harvard law graduate is head-hunted by a high-class company, but, it's not long before he begins to realise the firm is run by the Malia, who will stop at Sydney Pollack (135535)

JACKIE MASON LIVE AT Footage of the comedian's show recorded earlier this year in London (59954)

1.00mm FiLM: Carry on Matron (1972) Bawdy comedy, staming Sid James, Kenneth Williams, Hartie Jacques, Joan Sims, Charles Hawtrey and Barbara Windsor (19683)

2.30 WEATHER (8687867)

VideoPius+ and the Video PiusCodes The numbers must the whole Prescuence The numbers must to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode" numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder restantly with a Video PlusCode for the programme you with to record. Videoplus+ ("), Pluscode (") and Video Programme are trademarks of Gernstar Development (1)d.

BBC2

7.20am FILM: A Man for All Seasons (1988) starring Charlton Heston, Vanessa Redgrave and John Glelgud, Amade-for-television version of Robert Bolt's play about Sir Thomas More fighting Henry VIII over the King's desire for a divorce Directed by Charlton Heston (5905319)

8.45 Fil.Mr. Little Dorrit (1987) (2/2) With Derek Jacobi, 'Cyril Cusack, Sarah Pickering and Joan Greenwood, Concluding Christine Edzard's two-part cleans of Dichard's materials. ion of Dickens's ma Directed by Christine Edzerd (61618756) 12.40pm RACING FROM CHEPSTOW Julian Wilson introduces the 12.50; 1.20 and 2.25 races from Chepstow, and the 2.35 from Leopardstown (94997737)

2.50 Fit.M: An Affair to Remember (1957) Love on an ocean wave for Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr. Directed by Leo McCarey (T) (95747843)

4.40 CHOIR OF THE YEAR (3835350) 5.20 FiLM: Singin' in the Rain (1952) starring Gene Kelly, Debbie Reynolds, Donald O'Connor, Jean Hagen and Cyd Charlese. Classic, Oscar-nominated musical cornedy set in the 1920s. following the fortunes of two old triends—one a silent Hollywood hero, the other a composer. Directed by Gene Keily and Stanley Donen (T) (55418640)

Norwood, south London (r) (5973) ESCAPING FROM LIBERTY
The first of two programmes in which traveller and historian. Jan Monis revisits cities that have influenced her life Tonight, she visits Trieste in Italy, Cairo and Manhattan (1) (891331)

7.00 HOUSE DETECTIVES Architectural

sleams uncover the hidden history of a

seemingly ordinary Victorian house in



Pope John Paul II (8.20pm)

THE WORKS: The Secret ago Pope John Paul II was better known as subversive playwright, actor and poet Karol Wojtyla. Mark Lawson journeys to Poland to meet old friends of the radical writer (T) (702669)

9.00 SHOOTING STARS Spool game show with guests Jarvis Cocker, Emma Forbes, Ewen Bremner and Ian Kelsey (T)

9.40 THE FAST SHOW CHRISTMAS SPECIAL Seasonal cornedy (T) (289398) 10.35 KNOWING ME, KNOWING YULE — WITH ALAN PARTRIDGE Alan

Patridge (alias Steve Googan) hosts a Christmas house party (1) (r) (7) (7) (7) (7) 11.20 FiLM: High Heels (1991) With Victoria Abril and Marisa Paredes, A woman in the shadow of her mother, a famous singer, marries her mother's old lover and also falls for a drag queen who impersonates the temous mother. Directed by Pedro 1.00em A NIGHT OF WONDER Slevie Wonder in concert (1) (2984119) 2.00 WEATHER (7947175)

CHOICE **Escaping From Liberty**

BBC2, 7.30pm The title is a contradiction but a deliberate one. Presenting the first of two films about her favourite cities, Jan Morris explains that while her North Wales home could not be more like paradise she has always felt the urge to get away from it. This week she "escapes" to Trieste. Cairo and Manhattan, all of which have a personal resonance. Although she made her name with the profiter appearance and declare that the field written word, and declares that she finds elevision a clumsier medium. Morris takes the camera easily in her stride. As in her writing, she presents a subjective essay which (as James Morris) she saw as a British soldier, sparks nostalgia for past imperial glories. In Cairo she feels oppressed by history. New York recalls a first visit in 1953, just after she had reported the conquest of Everest for The Times.

Just Dancing Around?

Channel 4, 7_30pm The cinema director Mike Figgis (Leaving Las-Vegasi turns to documentary with a portrait of the choreographer, William Forsythe, in the first of a series that will also feature Trisha Brown and Richard Alston. most of his working life in Germany as director of the Frankfurt Ballet. Shot over six weeks, Figgis's film is a mixture of interview and rehearsal footage following Forsythe and his company as they prepare for an opening night. Known as Billy, Forsythe is a hard taskmaster and a cerebral one, who is apt to talk about "the refractive counterpoint" as if we all knew what it meant. But when Cartier, a sponsor of the market, he vents his fury in language hardly suitable for a programme going out so early.

The Works: The Secret Life of the Pope BBC2, 8.20pm

Pope John Paul II is one of the most conservative pontiffs this century. But as Karol Wojtyla, a young man in his native Poland, he was a poet and playwright of notably progressive views. Wojtyla the writer flirted with feminism and discussed the merits of revolutionary violence. Pope John Paul denies women contraception and reprimands Catholic priests who support Marvier Mark Lawson travels to Poland to explore this apparent U-turn. He tends to reject the notion of the Pope as an ecclesiastical Kingsley Amis, a youthful radical who became an elderly reactionary. Rather, he suggests that the radical side of Woitvla has never entirely disappeared Among Lawson's witnesses is the journalist, Carl Bernstein, who brackets John Paul with President Nelson Mandela as a champion of the oppressed.

BBCI, Midnight

Former rabbi Mason proves once again that a New Yorker's Jewish humour can travel beyond Manhattan. Standing before an audience in the vastness of the London Palladium, with no props beyond his voice and body language, he performs for an hour and is never stuck for a word. Indeed the words come so thick and fast that the problem is keeping up with them. Mason's comedy is born out of acute social observation. He starts from the realities of everyday behaviour and exposes its prefensions and ironies. Moving fluently from one topic to another, he gives us jokes about Jews and gentiles, doctors, die marriage, shopping and anything else that comes into his head. The act may be entirely rehearsed. If so, Mason's trick is to make i Peter Waymark seem spontaneous.

HTV

6.00am GMTV (7492553) 9.25 SANTO BUGITO (4337824) 9.50 STEP BY STEP (2388621) 10.20 NEWS (T) (3283534) 10.25 REGIONAL NEWS (3282805)

10.30 FILM: Tarzan's Greatest Adventure (1958) With Gordon Scott, Anthony Quayle and Sean Connery (23969282) 12.05pm CARTOON TIME (2904282) 12.20 HTV NEWS and weather (7127319) 12.30 NEWS (T) and weather (9225398)

12.55 DINOSAURS (9200089) 1.25 FiLM: Sinbad and the Eye of the Tiger (1977) starring Patrick Wayne, Taryn Power and Margaret Whiting. Swashbuckling adventure with Sinbad setting out to save a princess' brother from the spell of an evil sorceress. Directed by Sam Wanamaker (28079805)

3,30 NEWS (1719466) 3.35 REGIONAL NEWS (1718737) 3.40 WORLD'S GREATEST MAGIC (1017331)

4.10 DANCE! featuring Darcy Bussell, Igor Zelensky, Wayne Sleep and the cast from Riverdarice (1699737) 5.10 BRUCE'S PRICE IS RIGHT (1)

(7872621)5.40 NEWS (T) and weather (201485) 6.00 CELEBRITY SQUARES (118373)

6.25 HTV NEWS (1) (254466) 7.00 CATCHPHRASE (T) (2027) 7.30 CORONATION STREET Liz McDonald receives unexpected news (T) (466)

8.00 THE BILL: HERS (T) (8447) 8.30 FAITH IN THE FUTURE Faith and Hannah are busy making marriage plans



William Peterson as Dalton (9pm)

9.00 PETER BENCHLEY'S THE BEAST The conclusion (35443089)

10.40 NEWS (T) and weather (643089) 10.50 REGIONAL NEWS (741195) 10.55 TINA TURNER: Live in Amsterdam Wildest Dreams Tour (844534)

11,55 FILM: VI Warshawski (1991) starring Kathleen Turner and Charles Duming. When a daughter falls to discover the identity of her father's murderer she turns to a tough-talking detective to track down the culprit. Directed by Jeff Kanew

1,35 ENTERTAINMENT '96 (4238175) 2.35 FILM: Hanover Street (1979) starring Harrison Ford, Lesley-Anne Down and Christopher Plummer. Romantic drama set during the Second World War. Directed by Peter Hyams (576190)

3.35 FUNNY BUSINESS (64683193) 4.05 THE 1996 WORLD MUSIC AWARDS (1) 5.55 NEWS (1288409)

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 LAUGH WITH THE CARRY ONS (9200089)

6.10.40 YEARS OF ITV (449447) 7.00-7.30 CATCHPHRASE (2027) 1.35am ENTERTAINMENT '96 (4238175) 2.30 Film: CODE NAME — ZEBRA (576190) 4.20 JONES AND JURY (96393802) 4.40 COOL VIBES (56837732) 4.45 Film: GHOSTS ON THE LOOSE

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

12.55pm-1.25 EMMERDALE (9200089) 6.00 WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (95008) 7.00-7.30 CATCHPHRASE (2027)

VESTCOUNTRY

MERIDIAN As HTV West except:

12.55pm-1.25 THE PIER (9200089) 6.00 MERIDIAN TONIGHT (95008) 7.00-7.30 CATCHPHRASE (2027) 4.00am THE 1996 WORLD MUSIC AWARDS (907549)

ANGLIA ... As HTV West except:

12.19pm ANGLIA AIR WATCH (8672404) 12.55-1.25 CELEBRITY SQUARES (9200089) 5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7872621) 6.00 BRUCE'S PRICE IS RIGHT (118373) 6.25 ANGLIA WEATHER AND NEWS (254466)

7.00-7.30 CATCHPHRASE (2027) 10.49 ANGLIA AIR WATCH (651008) 4.00am THE 1996 WORLD MUSIC

AWARDS (907549) Starts: 6.50am THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ (8586843) N THE HOUS 7.40 THE BABYSITTERS CLUB (8574669)

8.10 LITTLE SHOP (7515447) 8.40 WHERE ON EARTH IS CARMEN SAN DIEGO? (9084244) 9.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (9900B) 10.00 Film: BLOOD ALLEY (72177398)

12.05pm BLUE CHRISTMAS (2902824) 12.20 SLOT MEITHRIN (8798783) 12.50 RACING FROM KEMPTON PARK (49396379) 3.05 Film: AND YOU THOUGHT YOUR

PARENTS WERE WEIRD (19177973) 4.45 THE PINK PANTHER (8365282) 5.00 0 PUMP (1355) 5.30 TESTAMENT: Y BEIBL WEDI'I

ANIMEIDDIO (331) 6.00 NEWYDDION (988195) 6,05 HENO (\$18599) 6.35 SION A SIAN (256008)

7.00 CEFN GWLAD PATAGONIA (1621) 8.00 GAIR O BROFIAD (7669) 9.06 NEWYDDION (478669) 9.10 STANLEY BAXTER IN REEL TERMS (444114)

10.10 BROOKSIDE (408060) 10.40 FATHER TED'S XMAS SPECIAL (846992)

11.40 Film: INVASION (312553) 1.25am Film: NIGHT OF THE EAGLE (777886) 3.00 Film: THE DEVIL DOLL (601645)

CHANNEL 4 6.50am THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ

Outes re ex-

t and

(r) (8586843) 7.15 UP ON THE HOUSE TOP (r) (7099973) 7.40 THE BABYSITTERS CLUB (r) (8574669)

8.15 LITTLE SHOP (r) (7515447) 8.40 WHERE ON EARTH IS CARMEN

9.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (99008) 10.00 HANGIN' WITH MR COOPER (43244) 10.30 THE CRYSTAL MAZE (6385263) 11.25 BACK TO THE FUTURE (r) (7345669) 11.55 THE PINK PANTHER (5854094)

12.20pm GOD IN THE HOUSE (4/6) (T) 12.50 RACING from Kempton Park Featuring the 1.10pm; 1.40pm; 2.15 and 2.50 races (49396379)

3.05 BABYLON 5 (r) (T) (2936176) 4.00 FILM: The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

(1938) starring Torrimy Kelly. Children's adventure based on the Mark Twain's classic novel. Directed by Norman Taurog (T) (7262992)

5.20 FILM: Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure (1987) Cult comedy starring Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter as time travelling teenagers. Directed by Stephen Herek (T) (55410008)

7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (T) (1599)

7.30 JUST DANCING AROUND? William Forsythe The first of three programmes in which directors track the creative processes of contemporary choreographers Tonight, Mike Figgis films William Forsythe and the Frankfurt Ballel (T) (19805)

8.30 BROOKSIDE Mick gets more than he bargained for when Elaine pays him a visit (T) (8824)



The comedian Jo Brand (9.00pm)

9.00 JO BRAND: All the Way to Worcester Backstage moans and groans as Jo prepares for her 28th show of a regional tour (1) (35434331)

10.00 FiLM: The Man with Two Brains (1983) with Steve Martin and Kathleen Turner Surreal, farcical comedy about a surgeon finding love with the brain of a woman. Directed by Carl Reiner (T) (846992)

11.40 FILM: Night of the Demon (1957, b/w) starring Dana Andrews. An American psychologist gets involved with a sinister cult. Directed by Jacques Tourneur (312553)

1.25am FILM: Night of the Eagle (1962) starring Peter Wyngarde and Janet Blav. A couple's life is invaded by witchcraft. Directed by Sidney Hayers (777686)

3.00 FILM: The Devil Doll (b/w, 1936) starring Lionel Barrymore and Maureen 'O'Sullivan. An escaped convict uses a miniaturising serum to gain revenge on those behind his unjust conviction. Directed by Tod Browning (41235499)

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory,

nublished on Saturday

SKY 1 7,00m Lose Correction (4978263) 7.20
Pages Your Luck (4998027) 7,40 Jeopardy
1315447 8,10 Hotel (5560244) 9,00
Another World (5697927) 9,45 The Openh
Winters Show (761568) 10,40 Real TV
(4733282) 11,10 Sally Jessy Rephael
(565282) 12,00 Geratio (17244) 1,00 pm
The 1996 Editorat Masac Awards (17843)
9,00 Jerry Jones (23331) 4,00 The Oprah
Winter Show (2466 5,00 Ser Yeak The
Next Generation (9718) 6,00 The Simpsons
(6737) 6,30 The Simpsons (7697) 7,00 The
Sompsons (3337) 7,30 Supermodels (6773)
8,00 Kung Fr. She Legend Continues
(63447) 8,00 Winter Texas Ranger (85534)
11,00 Star Trek, The Next Generation
128605 12,00 LAPD (51480) 12,30 am Real
TV (41374) 4,00 He Ms. Long Play (47732)

7.00pms Star Tosk: Deep Spice Nine (1951/282) 8.00 Nowhere Mart (1937/802) 8.00 Montels Inc. (1957/466) 10.00 Fire (1950/55) 11.00 Late Shoe, with David Letoman (13/51/76) 12.00 Fix.Mr The First Men In the Moon (2777/222) 2.00mm Hd Mex Long Pay (50/33/206)

SKY NEWS Worldwale news coverage, with building on the hour 24 hours a dzy, seven days a week SKY MOVIES

6.00mm Circunos the Cross-Eyed Lion (1995) 87-543 8.00 Rits Haywords: The Love Goddens (1983) (8233) 10.00 Revenge of the Newto Rr. Newto in Love (1994) 32531 12.00 Clean Sisia (1994) (57422) 2.00pm Sentoreor's 2nd (1993) (6035) 4.00 Only You (1994) (7550) 6.00 Bodyed Kipling's Sec Jangle Book (1994) (8014); 2.00 Senthoreor's 2nd (1984) (5233); 10.00 Disclosurs (1994) (7800) 4.00 12.00pm Philadelphia (1994)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

(7823756) 8.25 The New Adventures of Other Twist. U (57445008) 10.00 Manarick (1993) (28785373) 72.10pm North (1994) (939447) 1.45 Major League B (1994) (939447) 1.45 Major League B (1994) (9397085) 5.20 Manarick (1983) (6521973) 7.30 Mc Top 10 (2911) 8.00 3781, Dark and Deadly (1995) 50973) 10.00 Interview, with the Vanpire (1994) (29405114) 12.05em The Scout (1994) (29405114) 12.05em The Scout (1994) (493428) 1.50 Milling Zoe (1994) (527577) 3.30 Pretty Princess (1994) (527578)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm Jesus Christ Superster (1973) (8293540) 8.00 Donover's Reef (1963) (387379) 8.00 Kesste Kid Pert S.(1965) (387379) 10.00 Casuatters of War (1989) (5819795) 12.00 Victor, Victoria (1982) (6850804) 2.15pm Spaceballs (1987) (783461) 3.55-5.30 Pat and lifes (1982) (7841935)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Mevies Gold takes over at 10pm.
6.00em Muppet Babies (482453) 6.25

Sing Me a Story, with Bele (4803057) 6.50

Big Gerage (1792802) 7.00 Enchanted Telest-Tom Thumb Meets Thumbelina (9308263) 7.45 The Smell One (800811) 8.10 Bonkers (832306) 9.35 Cuack Pack (888000) 9.00 Abadón (5203002) 9.25

Timon and Pumbes (3337379) 10.10 Deriving Duck (921945) 10.35 Bonkers (159195) 11.10 Cuack Attack (9033465) 11.25 O Christmas Tree (8973331) 11.50 God Telos (904875) 12.15 m Abadón (3483027) 12.40 Winnie Ins Pooh and Xings Too (2544027) 1.30 Fulls: The Computer Wors Treinie Stocas (92357) 3.00 The Smell One (7414692) 3.25 Bonkers (743027) 2.50 Manua Tracis (8583282) 4.15 Carleong Duck (8166379) 4.40 Good Troop (203047) 5.05 Aladón (7164805) 5.30 Timon and Pumbas (824) 6.90 Sky Tackers (1927) 8.30 Fill.M: The Christmas Box (94027) 8.00 10.00 Fill.M: Disney's Return to Oz (34973)

SKY SPORTS 1

6.30mm Sports Centre (58114) 7.00 Recing News (57973) 7.30 Live International Crisisel (1290718) 3.30pm Crisisel Second Immgs (5659) 4.00 World of Saling (2179 4.30 World Sport Sporal (1060) 5.00 Cell Richerd's Calabray Christmas Termin 1996 (5534) 6.00 Sports Centre (14282) 7.00 International Crisisel (78992) 10.00 Sports

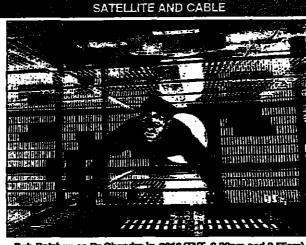
Centre (15824) 11.00 Hold the Back Page (68621) 12.00 World Wresting Federation: Raw (31596) 1.00mm.Sports Centre (82616) 2.00-3.00 Hold the Back Page (43190) SKY SPORTS 2

8.00pm The Rugby Club (8252805) 9.00 loe Hockey. NHL Power Woek (6272869) 10.00 World Wresting Federation: Raw (6275765) 11.00 Big League Clessics (3491911) 12.30em-1.00Second Immings: Cricket (7834683) SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Bud Suring Tour (43207089) 1.00pm Football Special (84910282) 3.00 Scothsh Leigue Football (50141718) 5.00 Trans World Sport (41748331) 6.00 Bud Suring Tour (43298973) 7.00 Football Leigue Rowsey (4188178) 8.00 Spanish Football (41691640) 10.00 Trans World Sport 44168742) 11.00-12.00 Football Leigue (41691640) 10.06 Trans World Sport (41687447) 11.00-12.00 Football League EUROSPORT

7.30mm Eurofun (81176) 8.00 Motors (71737) 9.00 Alhenes (44911) 11.00 Al Sports (98396) 11.30 Ohmpac Gemes (90127) 12.00 Football (10466) 1.00pm Eurofun (74840) 1.30 Al Sports (90802) Eurorin (74840) 7.30 48 sports (2002) 2.00 Figure Stating (88886) 4.00 inferme-tonel Motorsports Report (73350) 5.00 Ali Sports (4682) 6.00 Ali Sports (7682) 6.30 Olympic Garmes (8973) 7.00 Tennia (62805) 9.00 Ali Sports (78534) 9.30 Olympic Garmes (11195) 10.00 Sumo (88832) 11.00-12.30 Supercross (49824)

GRANADA PLUS 8.00mm The Krypton Factor (5411283) 6.30 Ticke on the Turn (29098992) 8.45 Time for a Story (82995485) 7.00 Alborat (7989800) 7.15 Ticke on the Turn (8984840) 7.20 Catwards (1979737) 8.00 Classic Coronation Street (129099) 8.30 The Krypton Factor (1296379) 8.00 Families (1273331) 9.30 Alboro Maintel (570034) 10.00 Pop Goe: Chistmas (6786350) 10.30 Necess and Degrest (1202843) 11.00 Shotby Tiger (198485) 12.00 Classic Coronation Street (1293185) 12.30 pas Weaching (5704350) 1.00 Adam Smith (1959873) 1.30 Families (5704351) 2.00 Christmas on the Street (1394824) 2.30 Christmas on the Street (173634) 4.00 Christmas on the Street (173634) 4.00 Christmas on the Street (1192599) 4.30 Christmas on the Street (1192599) 4 lickle on the Turn (29089992) 6.45 Time for a Story (82595485) 7.00 Allsorts (7989060)



Bob Balaban as Dr Chandra in 2010 (TNT, 9.00pm and 2.55am)

6,00 Classic Coronation Street (1179718) 6.30 Families (1193396) 7.00 Doing Their Thing (1398540) 7.30 Watching (1182282) 8.00 The XYY Man (8112205) 9.30 Classic Coronation Street (2812060) 9.30 Christ-mas on the Street (5724114) 10,00-11,00 Alf for Love (8136759) All for Love (8135756) From 11,00pm-2,00mm Men and Motors GRANADA GOOD LIFE

TLC/DISCOVERY

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00em-9.00- TV High Street Includes consumer news and features and your Stars presented by Russell Grant From 3.00-12.00 Food and Wise. Includes recipes and cleas from Delie Shith From 1.00-3.00em Health and Beauty-Includes Natural Health From 1.00-9.00 House and Garden. Includes The Good Life Style Guide

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00em Biography: Jesus, His Life [2587389] 5.00 Mysteries of the Boile (1243027) 6.00 Ancient Medical From 3.00-8.00 Biography: Jesus His Life (2776892) 7.00-8.00 Biography: Jesus His Life (2776892) 7.00 Next Step (7517008) from 8pea-4em Monday to Wednesday and 7.00 Arthur C. Clarke's World of Strange

Powers (8844/89) 8.00 Showcase: Science Defectives: Came Lab (1371485) 9.00 Hunt for the Sanal Arsonist (1351602) 10.00 To Calch a That (1361089) 11.00 Arfrur C. Clerke's Mysterious Universe (107838) 11.30 A Case of Munder (9926805) 72.00 Clessic Wheels (8890138) 1.00 The Enfrenists (5231683) 1.30-2.00 Special Forces (789175) **UK GOLD**

7.00am Going for Gold (2364379) 7.35 Crossroads (2068718) 8.00 Neighbours (9612398) 8.25 EastEnders (2053992) 9.00 The Bit (43,4244) 8.30 Coldiz (858379) 10.30 The Suliverts (4373756) 11.00 The Oregin Line (1691689) 12.00 Crossroads

Onedin Line (1691089) 12.00 Crossroads (40280905) 12.25pm Merginbours (40280905) 12.25pm Merginbours (40280905) 12.55pm Merginbours (40280905) 12.55pm Merginbours (40280905) 12.50 The Bid (8860027) 4.00 Some Mothern Do 'Ave 'Em (1079027) 5.00 EastEnders (6777669) 5.35 Crossroads (6807718) 6.00 You Rang MTLord? (2800718) 7.00 Bob's Full House (8559737) 7.40 Ever Decreasing Circles (12828640) 8.15 Cesually (1582114) 10.15 The Bid (4728718) 10.50 Live at Jongleurs (3349962) 11.20 The Best of Top of the Pops (5827718) 12.00 FBLM: Williamst an Clue (9469799) 2.20 Shopping at Negri

6.00am Tany TCC (4613447) 6.20 Brum (4556669) 6.30 Jim Henson's Animal Show (24282) 7.00 A Toy for Tanya (25396) 8.00 Runseesy Robots (43783) 8.30 Ees the Cat (93224) 9.00 Ari Attack (25824) 9.30 Metidown: Ni Neixed Farmes (52843) 10.00 Sevect by the Bell (31060) 11.00 Sevect Valley High (28460) 11.30 Hang Time (16069) 12.00 Hearthreat High (52465) 1.00pen Madison (55640) 1.30 Metidown Nine to Five (25602) 2.00 Sweet Valley High (16263) 3.00 California Dreams (10805) 4.0-5.00 Saved by the Bell (22640)

8.00am Teenage Mutani Hero Turties (60534) 8.30 Biker Mice Irom Mars (56756) [80534] 8.300 (9687 MICP BIOT) MATS [50730] 7.00 Captein Smian and the Space Montleys (88843) 7.30 Tales from the Cryptikeeper (67350) 8.00 Mg/hy Mox (73447) 8.30 Hay Amold (7371e) 9.00 Rugnes (79282) 10,00 Reel Monsters (47008) 10.30 Doug (85282) 11,00 Rocko's Modern Lillo (52244) 11,30 Pete and Pate (63973) 12.00 The Secret World of Alex Mack (76534) 12.30pm Ren and Stimpy (25355) 1.00 The Feralz (87114) 1.30 Space Caces (75966) 2.00 Consiss Ex-plans It All (5319) 2.20 Doug (9485) 3.00 Clarissa: Explains It All (5319) 2.30 Doug (9465) 3.00 Real Monsters (2624) 3.20 Suctor' Around (4911) 4.00 Bruno the Kid (4678) 4.30 Rugnats (9602) 5.00 Sister Stater (3176) 6.00 Molesha (9945) 6.30-7.00 Are You Alraid of the Dark? (1447)

7.00pm Diffrent Strokes (4805) 7.30 Berson (9701) 8.00 Due South (23843) 9.00 Almost Perfect (82006) 9.30 Tax 10.80 Garls no Top (86911) 11.00 Barry Watch is Coming (87553) 11.30 Nightstand (67621) 12.30am Stedge Hammer (85732) 1.00 Due South (82696) 2.00 Entertainment 15.732409 2.20 Ranny Welsh is Coming UK (32409) 2.30 Barry Welsh is Coming (11916) 3.00 Gats on Top (95634) 3.30-4.00 Almost Perfect (35596)

BRAYO

PARAMOUNT

12.00 Fantesty Island (2629602) 1.00pm Remington Steele (2638360) 2.00 Sapphre and Steel (926176) 3.00 Fantesty Island (1045060) 4.00 FR.Mt. Sam Whistory (7528699) 8.00 Thunderbirds (2658114) 7.00 The Champions (1359244) 8.00 Sarsky and Hutch (136892) 9.00 Billion-are Boys Club (1388756) 10.00-12.00 FR.Mt. The Monster Club (1044331) UK LIVING

6.08em Kiroy (1968911) 7.00 The Agony Experience (1902756) 7.30 The Young and the Residess (3974534) 8.20 Michael Barry's Choole Cuts (1853060) 8.55 Turn-about (8165466) 8.35 Trivial Pursuit (8309850) 10.00 Entertainment Now (8127621) 10.05 The Jorry Springer Show (1828843) 11.00 The Young and the Decision (1273534) 11 55 Enord and Dinis (16298/3) 11.00 the toung and me Restless (1233534) 11.55 Food and Drink (2298569) 12.25pm Cell the Doctor (40744640) 12.50 Gabnetle (2335089) 1.40 Rolonda (9995602) 2.30 The Agony Experi-ence (2376398) 3.00 Chaffe's Angels (5818486) 4.00 Who's Sorry Now? (280380) 4.30 Telisabout (2024689) 5.05 Long (45701776 \$ 50 Ludy Larines Eggo (45203176) 5.30 Lucky Laddets (2870114) 8.00 i Dream of Jeannie (2877027) 5.30 Roady, Steady, Cook (573759) 7.05 The New Mr and Mrs Show (4763447) 7.35 Trussi Pursur (4327962) 8.00 General Practice (3689350) 9.00 FILM: Broken Pledges (36355282) 10.50

Entertainment Now! (8573027) 11.00 The

FAMILY CHANNEL 5.00pm Blockbusters (9282) 5.30 Treasure Hurn (47824) 6.30 Catchohrase (7263) 7.00 The Pyramid Game (6718) 7.30 Hert to Harl (59485) 8.30 Where I Live (4973) 9.00 Bergerac (49718) 11.00 Bagdad Catc (30669) 11.30 FM (11718) 12.00 Lou Caral (7954) 1.00am Bergerac (40954) 2.00 Hart to Harl (94948) 3.00 Lou Garat (2967) 4.00 All Together Now (59577) 4.30 The Black Stallion (48409)

The 24 hour music channel, includes

MTV

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new sounds ZEE TV

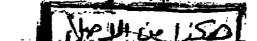
7.00am Jasgran (74049718) 7.30 Life Style East (90494495) 8.30 Campus (39628114) 9.00 Shri Krishna (39819466) 9.30 Chehre (77256379) 10.00 Hasretam (52321896) 11.30 Kachwa Aur Kharagosh (39606350) 11.00 Cookery Programme Zaika ka Safar (63962602) 11.30 Cachwa Aur Kharagosh (39606350) 11.00 Cookery Programme Zaika ka Safar (63963602) 11.30 Can Bhi Chup (63963631) 12.00 Andaz (39699602) 12.30pcs Nukled (177250188) 1.00 Fillilit Anyl Millam Ki Belle (61985114) 4.00 Mere Saath Chal (34304485) 4.30 Zee Zone Special (14329911) 5.30 ZEE Presents (68024195) 6.30 ZEE and You (34305114) 7.00 BBCD (9918865) 7.30 Ashan (34301398) 8.00 News and Euronews (7908958) 8.30 Galascée Prac Draw UK Antaleshan (81451737) 9.05-12.00 Hr Star Saason — Ajay Devgen: Najasyaz (65297534)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Confinatous carboths from Earn to Spirit, then TNT films as below. 9.00pm 2010 (1984) (45461602) 12.15am Evis: Thet's the Way It is (2625683) 1.05 MGM*s Big Parade Comedy (91030374) 2.55-5.00 2010 (1984)

7.00pm Dance of the Contary 5 (3685534) 8.00 Prototiev's Contrillor (80874534) 10.15 Old Roccoco (8256360) 12.00-

PERFORMANCE





FRIDAY DECEMBER 27 1996

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK 18

Branson adviser accused of corruption over Botswana airline



Branson: considering deal to expand in Caribbean

By Jason Nisse

A WARRANT for the arrest of an international aviation consultant working with Richard Branson on the expansion of Virgin Atlantic, has been issued by the Botswanan au-thorities. It alleges corruption.

Brian Pocock, 60, has been helping Virgin to put together a £100 million deal to take a stake in BWIA International, the Caribbean carrier. along with consultancy work for other leading firms, including the financing arm of British Aerospace. However, earlier this month the

Directorate on Corruption and Eco-

warrant for Mr Pocock's arrest for alleged "corrupt practice" to do with his actions while general manager of Air Botswana from 1989 to 1994.

The allegations centre on events in 1992 and are believed to relate to the purchase, for about £30 million, of two BAe 146 aircraft. Barnard Humpris, the principal investigator, appealed for help in locating Mr Pocock Earlier this week *The Times* located Mr Pocock, who now lives in Leicestershire. He said that he was aware of the arrest warrant but did not know what the Botswanan alle-

"I have been out of the country and have only just become aware of these

charges," he said. "I have already given my legal representatives instuctions to get in touch with the

Mr Pocock added that there had been some controversy about the purchase of the BAe 146 aircraft, but this was because the contract was entered into before the Gulf War, which had changed the economic climate for aviation. Mr Pocock added that a supportive statement about him had been read out in the Botswanan parliament.

Virgin confirmed that Mr Pocock had been working with the airline but said it was not aware of the Botswana allegations. "Brian Pocock

came to us with the BWIA deal," said Will Whitehorn of Virgin. "He is due a fee if the deal comes off, but he disappeared before the talks were able to be conclued. We would like to hear from him."

Mr Pocock said that he had now been back in touch with Virgin since his return from abroad and had spoken to Mr Branson, who was

The BWIA deal would involve Virgin taking an initial 27 per cent stake in the airline, which is based in Trinidad and Tobago, en route to a £300 million privatisation of the carrier. Virgin would also have an option to buy another 24 per cent to

gain majoirty control. BWIA and Virgin are also planning to share aircraft, ground staff and training facilities.

BWIA is one of the main airlines flying between the United Kingdom and the West Indies. Mr Branson has had a long connection with the area as owner of the island of Necker in the British Virgin Islands.

BWIA hired Mr Pocock to advise them on aircraft purchases and he then approached Virgin about the deal to bring the two airlines togeth-er. He confirmed that he had been working for many other British firms, the most prominent being British Aerospace.

Lenders unite over boom in house prices

THE housing market is set to continue its remarkable recovery next year, with prices rising by as much as 10 per cent — or more than three times the current rate of

In a rare display of com-bined optimism, the Halifax and Nationwide building societies each predicted a 7 per cent rise in average prices. with the number of people moving house next year set to rise by more than 10 per cent. Abbey National, the second-

largest lender, also believes

that prices will rise by 7 per cent, with transactions climbing by as much as 12 per cent. The forecasts of the two largest building societies for next year's market were echoed by the National Associ-Hugh Dunsmore Hardy, chief executive, predicted a rise in prices of between 6 per cent

and 8 per cent.
At HSBC, Jonathan Loynes, the UK economist, suggested a 7 per cent price increase. Rob Thomas, housing analyst at UBS, was more optimistic. He said that prices would rise by 10 per cent in 1997 and a

further 10 per cent in 1998. This year has seen rises of more than 7 per cent, confounding the cautious predictions made at the end of 1995. to be be published early next month, is expected to show that prices continued to rise by I per cent month on month, and by nearly 8 per cent compared with December 1995. The society was forced to revise upwards its cautious prediction of a 2 per cent rise over 1996 when it became clear that the recovery was stronger than the society had anticipated.

The rise in prices in 1996 was fuelled, in part, by a shortage of supply. This looks set to continue into 1997, with the demand for family homes in desirable areas of the country remaining strong. while smaller, less attractive properties continue to lan-

Mr Dunsmore Hardy described the recovery in 1996 as "patchy", with prices up by 15 per cent to 20 per cent in parts of the South East. In other areas they remained static or fell.

More people are expected to buy and sell houses next year. reversing the trend of recent years. In 1995, the worst year in recent history, l.1 million homes changed hands. The Halifax expects a 10 per cent rise on the present 1.2 million transactions a year, while HSBC believes that the rise

could be as high as 15 per cent. Nationwide and the Abbey expect a rise to 1.4 million transactions. Andrew Pople,

managing director at Abbey. said: This will be the highest level since 1990, although this is still some way off from the average 1.6 million transactions experienced before the late 1980s boom." Few expect rising prices and

transactions to herald a 1980sstyle boom, however. Mortgage rates have started to rise in the wake of the quarterpoint base-rate increase before the Budget. Gary Marsh of the Halifax said that this should "take some steam out of the housing market". In addition, historically, borrowers are still servicing large amounts of mortgage debt and this should damp down any incipi-

Mr Marsh also pointed to moves by lenders to cut down on the generous discounts and cashback offers to borrowers that were introduced in a desperate bid to stimulate the market during the slump. Now that the market is

recovering on its own, lenders are attempting to return to more traditional mortgage offers. The Abbey National is planning a new range of mortgages for next month that it says will bring "a return to a fairer pricing policy for all".

I Rising house prices and interest rates will make houses less affordable, according to the TSB. The bank's latest affordability index shows that borrowers typically will have to spend £30.70 of

instead of the current £25.60. But Steve Lowe, head of mortgage marketing at TSB, added: "At first glance this looks depressing. It isn't. The affordability figure over the past 20 years has averaged

every £100 of take-home pay.



The Five go off on tour: Julian, George, Dick, Anne and Timmy, the dog open in Leeds on February 3

Business takes gloomy view of Budget's value

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BUSINESS leaders have concluded that last month's Budget is damaging - with the lp income tax cut viewed as a particular "mistake".

The Confederation of British Industry is concerned that Mr Clarke's spending plans were not as tough as they might have been, and that the spending cuts are being met from government-funded cap-ital spending. The British Chambers of Commerce believe that the lp cut in income tax in particular was a

The CBI says that some of the Chancellor's tax measures threaten to discourage normal business activity", while warning that the Budget may not remove the pressure for higher interest rates, which is

ing up sterling. The CBI does accept in its post-Budget analysis that "there were a few specific measures that could be welcomed by business", including the moves on small firms' uniform business rates and

hurting export and importcompeting industries by drivthe cut in small business

corporation tax rates. Douglas Godden, CBI head of economic policy, also applauds the fact that Mr Clarke was not as generous as he might have been, given the closeness of a general election. But the overall message is negative. The Budget has added to business costs and cut capital spending to fund 'headline' income tax cuts which could not be paid for through other expenditure

Five in search of backers

Investors are being asked to put up £75,500 to fund a tour of Enid Blyton's The Famous Five", a musical produced by the King's Head theatre in north London. The tour will start in Leeds on February 3 and is to coincide with the centenary of Enid Blyton's birth. The play, set in 1938, involves spies chasing Uncle Quentin's secret formula for the Ministry of Defence.

BZW chief missed Panel meeting

BY JASON NISSE

SIMON de Zoete, vicechairman of Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the merchant bank, and leader of the Northern Electric defence team, missed the crucial meeting of the Takeover Panel that led to BZW being accused of failing to tell the panel the full extent of fees it was paid to defend Northern against the bid from CE Electric of America.

The non-disclosure led to the bid being extended by four days, leading to shareholders holding an extra 0.5 per cent of Northern accepting CE Electric's £782 million offer, so lifting acceptances above 50 per cent and delivering the company into the hands of CE. Mr de Zoete was in Scotland

on business when BZW and Schroders, also working for Northern, went to the panel last Wednesday to seek consent to buy Northern shares in the market. BZW told the panel that it was not to be paid a success fee, in spite of there being a £250,000 discretionary fee in its contract. BZW has refused to say who led the team in Mr de Zoete's absence.

On Thursday morning, the panel ruling was faxed to Mr de Zoete at his Edinburgh hotel Seeing it mention a "flat fee", he rang BZW's lawyers and called a meeting to discuss what ought to be done. The meeting did not take place until that evening because Mr de Zoete had to fly back from Edinburgh, and a panel member was not contacted until 10.15pm.

This delay led to the panel ruling that the bid should be kept open. The panel is still investigating the bid and is to publish its findings shortly.

TWO TIMES CROSSWORD No 975

ACROSS

- Something preserving dig-nity (4-5)
- 6 Bathroom fitting: make use
- 8 'Knighted' beef joint (7) 9 Solids at hottom of cup (5)
- 10 Smart, genteel (4)
- 13 interfere with (workings) (6) 14 Military policeman (6)
- 17 Hamburgers, etc (4.4) 18 Follow; later, worse, bats-
- men (4) 20 Ruh sure (5)
- 21 Game on green baize (7) 22 Take (exam) (3) 23 Five-pointed star (9)
- First spirit visiting Scrooge
- 3 Industrial pollution (4) 4 She once held the gorgeous East in fee (Wordsworth) (6)

Pernickety person (7)

- 5 Saviour (8) 6 Seasonal ballet (Tchaikov-
- sky) (3,10) 7 Adhesive; imitation gem (5) 12 Samuel Smiles' gospel (4-4)
- 15 Traveller to shrine (7) 16 His choice was no choice at
- 17 Adjust image for clarity (5) 19 Sweet fizzy drink (4)

The solution to 974 will be published Wednesday. January 1

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About 150,000 more finance jobs could disappear over the next five years, the Banking Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu) said yesterday. The new losses would

come on top of the 130,000 that have been eliminated since the late 1980s, when banks and building societies began to close branches. Some 5,000 bank and building society branches have been closed in the past five

Bifu said banking and insurance jobs are the most vulnerable. The latter are at market."

risk because of the shift towards selling products to cus-The threat to banking jobs, it said, will come from new technology, such as home

banking, which will result inevitably in the closure of more high street branches. Ed Sweeney. Bitu's general secretary, said: The more banks cut their high street presence and undermine person-to-person presence in banking, the easier it is for

competitors like supermarkets

to come in and cream the

Nikkei slips back WALL STREET and Tokyo

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

went in opposite directions industrial average celebrated a successful year with further rises while the Nikkei index continues to be dragged down by Japanese economic worries. The Dow had edged up

nearly 30 points to around 6.551 by early afternoon, hoosted by rises in blue chips such as IBM and AT&T. Traders said mutual funds were buying shares in companies that had performed strongly over the year.

But the Nikker closed down 257.83 points at 19,291.58, with

the market worried that a tightening of fiscal policy will hinder Japan's fragile economic growth. At one stage the Nikkei had fallen nearly 700 points as traders gave the draft fiscal budget, which includes seven trillion yen (£37 billion) in tax rises, a resounding thumbs down.

The yen also lost ground, falling to a four-year low against the dollar, while bonds also dropped back. The Nikkei has now fallen around 5 per cent in the past three weeks.

Wall Street prices, page 35

Counterfeit fear over euro notes

Bifu predicts huge | Dow climbs while

THE new euro notes could become the favourite currency of counterfeiters, says De La Rue. Britain's leading banknote

The notes were first shown to the public at the European Union summit in Dublin this month but changes to the design are likely to become necessary. A working party at the European Mone-tary Institute, the forerunner of the European central bank, is charged with examining the security features of the notes during the next six months.

According to De La Rue, counterfeiters

may already be trying to produce euro

lookalikes while European consumers

are not yet used to the notes, which could



enter general circulation as early as 1999. ers can respond extremely fast."

A spokesman said: "The euro could be easily counterfeited in the same way that the dollar has been the counterfeiters' favourite for a long time. The counterfeit-De La Ruc's own design for the euro notes was rejected in favour of an

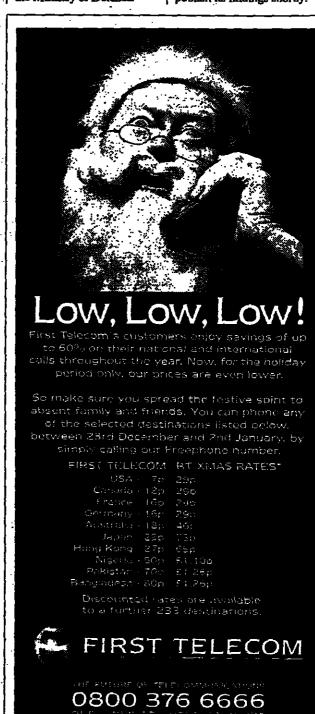
Austrian design chosen by a Brussels

win some of the euro printing contracts. The testing of the paper and various test printings are expected to take place in the second half of next year.

Decisions on how to allocate the printing will also be made later in 1997. Part of the printing will be done by central banks, which are responsible for banknote

printing in some European countries.

De La Rue is interested in designing security features, supplying the paper and printing the estimated 12 billion notes required for monetary union, But monetary union will also cost it some business because some European countries will cease to be individual clients of De La Rue's when their currencies disappear in 2002.



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